

Checking In

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For most of us, staying at a hotel is an exciting treat, and we want the space to feel that bit more decadent and glamorous than our humble homes. For this reason, hotels often feature extravagant lighting centrepieces that take guests' breath away. This is certainly the case for the Montcalm Hotel in London's Park Lane, whose stylish restaurant, The Grill, required a beautiful bespoke lighting feature as part of its design.

London-based interior design specialists TONIK Associates created concepts for the feature as part of the total restaurant design, with the aim of making the space even more attractive to its diners. TONIK commissioned Paul Nulty Lighting Design to add his ideas to the design, and to develop a lighting sculpture that was up to the challenge. The end design utilises 600 points of light, yet uses only 600W of energy; "That's just half of the energy it takes to boil a kettle," marvels Nulty, whose involvement in the Montcalm project also included the review and finessing of existing lighting systems.

After much consideration and a rigorous testing process, it was clear that the light sources needed for this project had to be compact, durable and energy efficient. Fibre optic technology was the initial idea, but the projects eco-

friendly focus on energy efficiency prompted the selection of an LED-based solution.

Paul Nulty Lighting Design recommended that Iberian Lighting select and produce the most appropriate luminaires. Aided by OSRAM LED specialist CLD Distribution, Iberian Lighting decided that OSRAM'S DRAGON-X DX01 W4F-830 1.2W LEDs

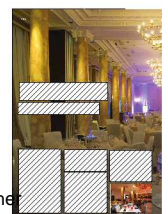
would be an excellent choice for the installation. A total of 600 of the light sources were selected to generate the desired effect for the design.

"OSRAM'S DRAGON LEDs are renowned for their ability to help reduce the cost of elaborate lighting installations," says Andy Gilks, National Account Manager, Specialty Products – Display Optic at OSRAM. "In the case of The Grill at Montcalm Hotel, they have allowed TONIK Associates, Paul Nulty Lighting Design and Iberian Lighting to deliver a design that is also highly visually arresting. Factor in the DRAGON's compact dimensions and long-life expectancy, and it's not surprising to see it being specified for an ever-increasing number of prestigious projects throughout the UK".

Committing to energy efficiency can be a difficult task, particularly for older buildings. Littlecote House, part of the Warner Group of Hotels, has an incredible history, but is now starting to look to future with a brand new 'late lounge', featuring striking colours and rich furnishings to offer guests an exciting entertainment space in the hotel. The lounge now uses Kosnic LEDs rather than traditional 300W halogen fixtures, with LED candle lamps being used to provide mood lighting at tables.

"Kosnic LED lamps are giving us the ambience and the performance we demand – all at a fair price," explains Dean Lavisher, Maintenance Manager at the hotel. "Before, you used to walk in the room and you could instantly tell it was lit by LEDs, now our guests can't tell the difference". In a hotel with a priority to create a perfect ambience for guests, this is a very important benefit.

Dernier and Hamlyn have previously completed a number of lighting projects for hotels, and recently produced three Fox Linton designed art deco glass chandeliers for a famous central London hotel. Inspired by the linear symmetry of the art deco design period, the



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chandeliers feature 36 clear reeded circular glass shades fixed to handmade solid brass rings and are each almost 2 metres high. These were manufactured at Dernier & Hamlyn's South London factory, where a number of fittings from the hotel were also refurbished.


Dennis Irvine, Director of Fox Linton, was delighted to have worked with the company; "We have previously worked with Dernier & Hamlyn on a number of hotel projects including Coworth Park and The Grove. The combination of their knowledge, attention to detail and solutions driven approach means that they are always able to achieve our design concepts within the budget available".

The lighting within a hotel creates the perfect ambience, but it is equally important to ensure that exterior lighting helps to accentuate a hotel's image. Elstead now offers a range of energy efficient architectural products under the LUTEC brand to suit hotel exterior lighting schemes. With a modern European design and high-pressure die-cast aluminium construction the fixtures will suit most architectural designs, and many of the designs have been created

in accordance with the low light pollution level requirement on public buildings.

For added piece of mind, the paint finishes are guaranteed for five years and most products have photometric data available.

Energy consumption, particularly from lighting, can be a real drain on finances, so a switch to more energy efficient solutions can mean the opportunity to invest in other aspects of the business. The new Toshiba E-CORE GU10 7.1W provides a low energy alternative to the 50W GU10 halogen, offering the opportunity to reduce energy consumption by 85% without reducing light output. The long life product will also save hotels money because of reduced maintenance requirements; not only will the requirement of maintenance call outs be reduced, the hotel will also save by not having rooms out of action whilst maintenance is taking place.

Ambience is everything in a hotel, and lighting plays an essential role in creating the right atmosphere to provide guests with a warm welcome. 

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Left: Littlecote House is benefitting from the introduction of a 'late lounge', which has been lit using Kosnic LEDs.

Below: Elstead offers solutions for exterior lighting that are suitable for hotels under the LUTEC brand.

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Hotels

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Below: The 'late lounge' in Littlecote House received a lighting makeover by introducing the use of Kosnic LEDs.

Adjacent Page: The Grill at Montcalm Hotel in London's Park Lane received a beautiful bespoke lighting feature as part of its updated design.

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