Technical Article



Installation Tips for Photocells

Product: Photocells Article ID: 08092011-JS/TB-01

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Summary: This article describes tips on how to install photocells successfully.

Information:

- 1) Be aware of the artificial lights in the area
 - i. Don't point the photocell toward any artificial lights
 - ii. Locate any emergency lights that never turn off. Locate the photocell away from emergency lights. If the photocell must be near an emergency light, the adjustment knob will need to be turned clockwise to compensate
 - iii. Locate the photocell away from light fixtures that focus light toward the ceiling. If the photocell must be near a fixture like this, the adjustment knob will need to be turned clockwise to compensate
- 2) Be aware of the natural light in the area
 - Don't point the photocell toward any windows. The photocell is designed to measure the light that is reflected off the floor
 - ii. Orient the solar cells on the photocell so that they are not facing in the direction of a window. The photocell is designed to collect energy from the light reflected off of the floor and windows
 - iii. Using a hand-held light meter, measure the light at the location of photocell during the brightest part of the day. Make sure that this does not exceed the specifications of the sensor. Keep in mind that the brightest part of the day is when the most sunlight is coming into the area. This may not be at noon. For example, if the window is facing east, the brightest part of the day is in the morning
- 3) Pick an appropriate Day-lighting Zone
 - i. A good rule of thumb is that the depth of the Day: lighting Zone is 1.5 times the height of the windows
 - ii. Areas around skylights are also good for daylighting
 - iii. An area with highly reflective flooring and walls (polished stone, polished wood, tile, etc.) will reflect more of the natural light to the photocell. This may require the adjustment knob on the sensor to be turned clockwise to compensate for the artificial light

Note: Follow all instructions that come with the photocell and receivers.

Contact: If you have any questions or concerns, please call LES technical support at (800) 959-6004.