

COMMERCIAL

Interior design

The essential guide for Middle East interior design professionals

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SPECIAL REPORT

HUMAN-CENTRIC LIGHTING SEES GROWTH SPARKS



EYES ON THE PRIZE

LW Design's Jesper Godsk says the most successful firm in CID Awards history is only just beginning

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SHINING BRIGHTER

THE HUMAN-CENTRIC LIGHTING MARKET IS WORTH BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND IS GROWING THANKS TO A FOCUS ON WELLBEING

Human-centric lighting is glowing with opportunity as designers call for a reduction in Instagram-led design in favour of spaces that respond to our needs as people. Growing focus on designing live-work-play spaces that improve our happiness and productivity is brightening the prospects of human-centric lighting.

While regional design and fit-out projects can often be rushed through on accelerated timelines, architects and interior designers want to see projects with a human-centric and detail-oriented approach. They want designs that are thought-provoking and memorable.

This is having a positive knock-on effect on the lighting industry. Researchers say the

international human-centric lighting industry will be worth more than \$6bn (AED2.2bn) by 2025. Hospitality, healthcare and the commercial office sector are among the categories ripe for transformation, as developers and operators replace traditional halogen bulbs with bright lights that promote wellbeing. Research says these industries are pairing LED lights with smarter, technological controls and software to bring down electricity costs.

Lack of a regulatory framework around the use of technology, though, could put a drag on growth, due to safety and security concerns, according to the report by Global Market Insights. Inadequate laws are compounded by an absence of industry-specific standards, it adds.

But due to growing consumer awareness on the negative impacts inhabiting a space with poor lighting, greater focus is being paid to human-centric lighting and the retrofit market was worth approximately \$50m (AED183.6m) in 2018, the data suggests.

Separate data published ahead of the Light Middle East trade show that's running from 15 to 18 October also points to growth in the lighting market – particularly in the Middle East. It says the region can expect to expand by a quarter by 2030, with regional economic powerhouses Saudi Arabia and the UAE leading the way. By then, it is estimated that the regional lighting market could be worth more than \$2bn (AED7.3bn), the data says.

Technological developments such as the emergence of light fidelity and non-visible LED lighting have been earmarked as key market drivers by the consultancy TechSci Research, an Indian-based data and analytics business.

"With declining LED prices, the segment is expected to register the fastest growth in the Middle East smart lighting market during the forecast period," the report states. "Owing to growing population, demand for energy efficiency measures, as well as residential units is increasing, which in turn is aiding the region's smart lighting market."

Italian high-end lighting manufacturer Nexo Luce has garnered a reputation for intelligent lighting solutions backed by decades of design. The recently-launched Oxen collection is no different. The Bauhaus-inspired range blends art and design through its simplicity of lines and shapes, drawing inspiration from sharp geometrical forms. Nexo Luce says the range of ceiling, floor, pendant, wall and table lights is suitable for hospitality and residential interiors and features a colour palette of polished nickel and satin. **ES**