

Media Release 04/2006

**For Immediate Release
7 March 2006**

Australia's first retail lighting experiment dramatically reduces lighting energy costs and greenhouse emissions

Sydney, 7 March 2006 - Australia's first pilot lighting energy efficiency program within a retail environment at Auburn Retravisio has reduced energy consumption by almost fifty per cent and as a result will significantly reduce annual lighting costs for the business. It will also reduce heat loads associated with lighting by a massive 75 per cent a year. As a consequence electricity costs at Auburn Retravisio will reduce by some \$10,000 a year. Retravisio Auburn is a medium sized homemaker/bulky goods style retail environment of approx 1400m².

In Australia lighting generates almost 25 million tonnes of greenhouse emissions each year and costs the community over \$2 billion in electricity. Lighting Council Australia, with assistance from the Australian Greenhouse Office, undertook a complete refit of Auburn Retravisio's lighting to find an energy saving solution for small business and to significantly reduce both energy consumption and greenhouse gases from lighting energy usage.

"The results from the pilot program at Auburn Retravisio are outstanding. Our aim was to demonstrate significant savings in a commercial environment using current affordable lighting technologies. We have doubled our initial savings targets," said David Tilbury, Chairman of Lighting Council Australia.

"This outcome clearly demonstrates the benefits of adopting a professional approach to the utilization of quality lighting products and technology", Mr Tilbury said.

In the initial stages, the project identified a number of qualitative and quantitative elements that had to be addressed to attain a minimum 20 per cent reduction in energy consumption. The original design included use of a large quantity of high wattage lamps, upward lighting, overlapping of fluorescent lights and poor use of colour rendition.

The redesign of the Auburn Retravisation presented the retail space in four visually distinct spaces or ‘rooms’ which allowed shoppers to be drawn into the different areas with the use of differing light fittings, colour temperatures and sources. Each space was designed and fitted with lighting specific to its needs while at the same time offering visual interest.

Auburn Retravisation co-owner Julie Rowland was delighted with the result. “We are ecstatic about the new look of the store. Not only will the savings be good for the environment but they will also have a positive impact on our bottom line,” she said.

Lighting Council Australia

Lighting Council Australia is the peak body representing Australia’s lighting industry. Its key goal is to encourage the use of appropriately designed and manufactured high-quality lighting systems and components in the commercial, outdoor and industrial sectors. Lighting Council Australia is a forum of the Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers’ Association (AEEMA).

- ENDS -

For further information please contact:

David Tilbury

Chairman, Lighting Council Australia

(07) 3375 9333

Bryan Douglas

Executive Officer, Lighting Council Australia

0412 190 162

Julie Rowland

Co-owner, Retravisation Auburn

(02) 9748 7144