



Global Hotlist of 'most exciting' lighting firms unveiled

The annual Global Hotlist of lighting companies that are setting the pulse of the market has been unveiled at a ceremony in Hong Kong.

Established brands such as Zumtobel, Osram and Acuity are joined by newcomers including Gooee, Kinetura, GVA and Nanoco. Pure-play LED brands Oppl and Cree also made the list while vacuum-cleaner giant Dyson, which recently entered the lighting sector, was named as 'the one to watch'.

'The international lighting business is changing beyond recognition,' said Ray Molony, chairman of the Global Hotlist selection panel organised by Lux Review. 'It's how well companies cope with these market challenges that set them apart. A few are setting the agenda with completely new business models, products and technologies while some of the established players are emerging resurgent after some years of turbulence.

'We at Lux Review want to recognise and celebrate all these companies,' he told an audience at the glittering event at the Grand Hyatt in Hong Kong, held in association with global LED lighting company Aurora. The awards were presented by Aurora founder and CEO Andrew Johnson.

Global Hotlist 2015

Oppl

The panel citation said: 'One of the greatest brands to emerge from the Chinese LED revolution of the 2000s, Oppl has embarked on a global push that is winning it market share from long-established names.'

Zumtobel

'After five years of upheaval and consolidation, Zumtobel has turned the ship around and is back on the acquisition trail and unveiling products of the standard for which it's been famous.'

Cree

'A resurgent and restructured Cree is turning heads in the market again, and with a beefed-up management team is looking to make strategic breakthroughs in Europe and Asia.'

Dyson

'One to watch. The vacuum cleaner manufacturer has established a lighting division under Jake Dyson, son of founder James, and with its R&D muscle and strategic collaborations, is promising big things.'

Kinetura

'Everyone asks who's doing truly innovative luminaires – well, this company is. Founded by architects, its morphing, breathing fittings look like they've arrived from the future.'

Acuity

'Vernon Nagel has successfully transformed Acuity into a company where LED has rapidly become the majority of its sales. Not only that, its stellar financial performance has turned it into a star of Wall Street.'

GVA

'Canadian firm GVA has solved a key problem: how to create seriously long runs of reliable linear-LED lighting for bridges and skyscrapers. Watch it dominate this market in the coming years.'

Osram

'The years of pain now behind it, a reascent Osram is unveiling strong category competitors such as its surge protection technology and positively-received Lightify internet lamps.'

Gooee

'The company that's vowed to single-handedly bring a kit box of Internet of Things capability to lighting manufacturers and lead the connected lighting revolution among OEMs.'

Nanoco

'Exciting University of Manchester spin-off makes cadmium-free quantum dots which promise near perfect colour rendering from LEDs and is leading the charge to commercialise the technology.'