ARE WE BUILDING AND DESIGNING THE RIGHT OFFICES FOR THE TECH COMMUNITY?

AN INFORMAL SURVEY
**Demographics**

**Ages**
- 25: 17%
- 26-30: 6%
- 31-40: 15%
- 41-50: 31%
- 51-60: 29%
- 61: 2%
- 75+: 2%

**Ave Hours in a Work Space**
- Hours working in office: 75%
- Hours working in home office: 24%
- Hours working in coffee shops, etc: 1%
- Hours working in other spaces: 1%
WHAT USERS WANT-
SURVEY RESULTS
Describe Your Actual Working Environment
Describe Most Productive Working Environment
Describe Your Perfect Working Environment
Which Color Do You Prefer As Your Working Background?
What lighting conditions allow you to work the most effectively?

• Bright light levels – in a room with large windows or skylight?
• Intermediate light levels – most interior office environment?
• Darkish environments – with reduced or dim light levels?
• I am not sure.
• It makes no difference to me. All are equal in my mind.
What Companies Choose - Lighting standards
Open Office

• Allow staff to reconfigure into work groups or departments can move around.
• Lighting wise- open offices lead to interesting user control questions.
Contrast To Working Surface

Client Request:
Contrast ratio between average work surface and immediately adjacent wall does not exceed 1:15.

IES Standard:
1:3 between task and immediate surroundings.
1:10 between task and remote surroundings.
Contrast Across the Ceiling

Particularly important for large open plan offices

Client Request:
The ceiling exitances (luminance measurements) have a min: max ratio of less than 1:15 on a single surface.

IES Standard:
Less than 1:10 Ratio
Contrast between Ceiling and Fixture

Client Request:
Contrast Ratio between the luminaire and the adjacent ceiling does not exceed 40 : 1.
Screen Glare

Avoid fixtures with significant luminous intensity (more than 300 Candela) above 55°
Understanding Photometrics & Screen Glare – avoid light output above 55°

Produces Less Screen Glare

Produces More Screen Glare
Conclusion

- High variability in data and user desires implies the need for dimming.
- If you are designing for animators, we recommend a detailed survey.
- Surveys indicated greatest dissatisfaction with acoustics rather than light.
Thank You

Kelly Roberson
kroberson@lightswitch.net