

For Immediate Release

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### **Some Things To Look For When Choosing Equipment**

Designers everywhere are presented with countless models and brands of landscape lighting fixtures, transformers and related equipment. Take for instance the many well-lights (in-ground uplights) on the market today. Every manufacturer around makes a well-light. The details that distinguish one particular fixture from another can appear, at least upon the surface, to be aesthetic or superficial. However, the details that are not immediately apparent - those that can be determined only after thorough analysis - are often the ones that make the difference between a premium quality fixture and every other look-alike on the shelf.

For example, Nightscaping® well-lights contain the exclusive 78-40 automatic safety switch. This switch is in place to address a range of environmental variables beyond manufacturer's control. Regardless of season, climate or surface obstruction, this switch insures Nightscaping® well-lights operate within a temperature range that promotes efficient operation and longer lamp life.

It is specific components like these, along with safety certifications, construction materials and factory warranties that one needs to be aware of when purchasing or specifying low voltage landscape lighting equipment. Often times a designer is presented with several models and brands of fixtures, transformers and accessories that are all similar in appearance. However, it is a welcoming disaster to assume that because these fixtures and other products look alike and appear to do the same thing that they are also comparable with regard to safety, quality and function. Aside from these kinds of differences in manufacturer specific components and technologies, other key details to look for in fixtures are how accessible is the lamp, kinds of mounting hardware used and what if any options are available.

But fixtures are only part of the equation. Transformers are the heart of any low voltage lighting system. Like fixtures, features including control modules and options, factory warranties and materials used in construction are things the designer needs to consider before making a purchase. However, what is of most importance with regard to choosing a transformer are concerns regarding safety.

Do the proper research. It is crucial to determine what transformer offers the safest most appropriate design for each individual project. A good place to start this research is by making sure the transformer is approved under UL 1838, the industry's accepted safety standard for low voltage lighting.

A finished project is only as good as the planning, effort and equipment put into it. Ultimately the lack of a particular product feature here or the slightest design flaw there can and will lead to future expense and maintenance headaches. Pay attention to the details and you'll eliminate potential problems before they have a chance to cost you.

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