

Hazardous areas now lit by Infinity Lighting



As one of Europe's largest names in hazardous area, emergency and industrial lighting solutions, German-made Schuch fittings are now exclusively available in New Zealand from Infinity Lighting.

Infinity Lighting director Phil Fuller says lighting consultants and site engineers now have reliable supply and technical support for a wide range of ATEX-compliant industrial light fittings.

Fuller says Schuch is a specialist manufacturer of explosion-proof, flame-proof and general industrial light fixtures and hazardous area fittings that meet the requirements for zones 1 and 2 (gas) and zones 21 and 22 (dust) environments.

"Schuch fittings are a brand of choice for use in the oil, gas and petrochemical industries and in a wide range of emergency lighting applications and have previously been specified in New Zealand."



Clark Nemeth and Phil Fuller

He says the range is now being supplied by Infinity Lighting – a specialist lighting distributor.

"While the Schuch brand has been available via numerous sources in New Zealand, Infinity Lighting is the first to openly focus the brand on the New Zealand lighting market and not just as another hazardous area component."

The company is now carrying stocks of core

Schuch lines to ensure greater product availability and prompt delivery from the company's Tauranga base.

Support where it's needed

Fuller says Schuch is an ideal fit with Infinity Lighting's core business of providing quality lighting solutions to the industrial and commercial sectors.

Infinity Lighting was launched by Clark Nemeth in 2000 and initially focused on commercial lighting in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions. When Fuller took up a shareholding in 2001, Infinity expanded its services to include the industrial sector.

Now with a nationwide focus Infinity Lighting provides industrial and hazardous area lighting solutions and brings an extra dimension to the design of lighting in hazardous zones.

With 15 years in industrial lighting Fuller says he has the application experience and design knowledge to ensure end-users not only achieve a safe and compliant lighting solution but also a well designed and effective lighting outcome.

He says Infinity Lighting went to considerable lengths to satisfy itself that Schuch products would meet the requirements of even the most rigorous specification.

"We wanted to be absolutely sure Schuch backed its distributors with the level of technical and product support appropriate to the specialist demands of hazardous area and emergency lighting solutions.

"This meant travelling to Germany to meet Schuch engineers and product managers to satisfy ourselves that the commitment we sought was not only available to us but also to assist specifiers and clients with technical information.



Schuch T8 fluorescent fittings include a strong internal steel sleeve for easy pole mounting

"We need not have worried. Schuch has a very long history of supporting distributors with documented procedures covering warranty claims, spare parts supply and availability, technical and compliance documentation and fast delivery options."

Schuch export sales manager Frank Wittman says Schuch and Infinity Lighting share a commitment to provide quality lighting products and solutions to New Zealand industry.

"We're looking forward to an effective business partnership and have given our total commitment to support Infinity with full access to our engineers and product specialists to assist with any technical inquiry."

Fuller says the product range has broad appeal to end-user sites and engineers as well as the country's leading industrial focussed consultants.

"In the relatively short time Infinity Lighting has been promoting Schuch, consultants such as Opus, Beca and Transfield-Worley have specified Schuch fittings in some of New Zealand's largest industrial sites including Fonterra, Carter Holt Harvey and the New Zealand Refining Company.

"All parties seem to agree that the best way to eliminate the high maintenance costs and production downtime caused by poor quality products is to use well-engineered fittings. They last a lot longer and ensure a higher level of site safety which is exactly what industry wants."

A recent and demanding project utilising Schuch fittings is the expansion to the New Zealand Refining Company's Marsden Point oil refinery.

Refinery chief inspector for electrical installations in hazardous areas, Kevan Walker says Schuch is the preferred light fitting for Zone 1 and Zone 2 sectors within the refinery and has been for three or four years.

"Schuch's T8 fluorescent fittings have a number of design features that make them ideal for our site. These include solid steel internal mounting hardware for improved mechanical strength and an internal steel sleeve fitting for fast and easy pole mounting.

"Many of our hazardous area fittings are pole-mounted so Schuch's internal steel

sleeve fitting provides for quick and easy installation. It also offers improved earthing options.

"Our electricians have had no issues with the strength or quality of the lamp housings and have commented on the speed and ease of lamp replacement with the fittings' hinged one-piece diffuser and robust locking mechanism."



Infinity Lighting also supplies a range of under-veranda IP 65 industrial light fittings for T5 and T8 fluorescent lamps with a GRP gear tray as standard for harsh environments

Walker says he can't recall any component or electronic failure in the four years the refinery has relied on Schuch fittings for hazardous area applications.

"We've had excellent service and support from Infinity Lighting to date with product being readily available. What has impressed me is Infinity's willingness to investigate design changes to better suit our particular applications."

Explosion-proof solutions

Fuller says Infinity Lighting carries a full range of Schuch 'e' and 'nD' series explosion-proof surface and pole mount fluorescent fittings for 18W and 36W T8 tubes and can also supply explosion-proof bulkheads and floodlights ranging from 70W to 1000W.

He says 'e' and 'nD' series fluorescent fittings can be supplied in a single, twin or four-tube fitting in a choice of solid GRP, powder-coated steel or 316 stainless steel housing for corrosive environments.

Unique Schuch design features include the first hazardous area-compliant fluorescent fitting to carry an internal electronic ballast.

"Schuch EX fittings use a double-channel ballast system with separate lamp monitoring and automatic 'end-of-life' switch-off systems. If one tube fails it won't affect the operation of the other tube in the fitting. This has obvious safety benefits in hazardous areas and emergency lighting.

"Schuch's end-of-life system also overcomes any risk of lamp holder sockets overheating by safely switching off fluorescent tubes at the end of their operating life."

Fuller says Schuch's robust stainless steel single key entry and optional left or right hinged gear tray makes routine lamp maintenance fast and safe in suspended lighting applications.

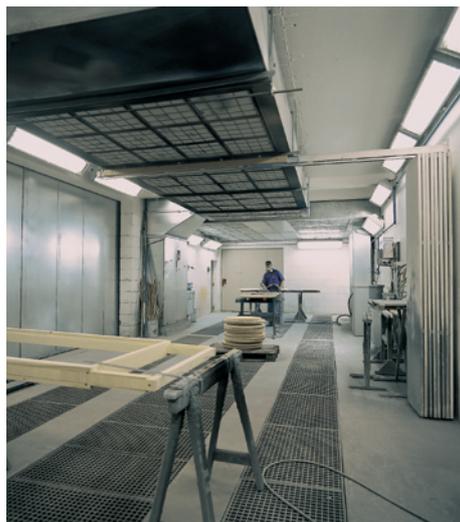
"Schuch 'e' series fittings also automatically cut off power to the internal ballast when the diffuser is opened and fittings can be specified with bilateral through-wiring or end-to-end looping for faster and easier parallel installations."

He says Schuch 'nD' series fittings are ideal for chemical or fertiliser plants where dust accumulation has to be managed in accordance with Zone 2/22 safety requirements.

"We have a wide range of 'nD' series high bay fittings available with peaked tops to prevent dust build-up available in a choice of sheet metal or stainless steel housings for fluorescent and HID lamps."

Infinity Lighting also supplies a range of under-veranda IP 65 industrial light fittings for T5 and T8 fluorescent lamps with internal GRP gear tray as standard for harsh environments. The GRP gear tray is designed to prevent rust and 'tracking' that can sometimes occur on a steel gear tray.

For inaccessible or hard to reach installations Schuch offers fittings that use Endura 60,000 hour long-life lamps to reduce re-lamping and servicing costs. ■



Infinity caters for all types of hazardous areas including spray booths

For a further information on the Schuch range or to order your free catalogue email inquiries@infinitylighting.co.nz or free phone 0800 14INFI (144 634)