

Don't let down a costly refurbishment

by neglecting your lighting.

The magic of light



Romance and drama with fibre optic lighting, in the Grand Hotel conservatory, Brighton.

What would a hotel be without ambience? And what hope for ambience without lighting? When creating the desired warmth and mood of welcome, appropriate lighting plays an enormous role and deserves close and careful consideration.

In the public areas, appropriate lighting is essential. Not only can it enhance the mood of an establishment, it can also be used as a subtle and effective way of highlighting important areas, such as reception.

Corridors should be well lit, without being garish, and bedrooms have their own requirements. Careful thought needs to be given to the guests' needs here, with a careful mix of 'mood' illumination and bright lighting, to allow them to actually see what they're doing when required.

When it comes to exciting possibilities, dining and bar areas really have a chance to shine. From extravagant chandeliers to simple candlelight, the lighting in the restaurant offers an opportunity to make a statement.

There is also the potential to change the mood according to the time of day or the occasion. Dimmable lighting, a mix of uplighters and candlelight, and some of the

beautiful fittings on the market all make for a potent combination when used imaginatively.

The importance of exterior lighting should not be forgotten. A guest who has just stumbled around in the darkness getting from his car to your establishment will probably not be too receptive to that welcoming ambience you have strived so hard to create.

Heavy bills

All these lights add up to heavy bills if you're not careful, but it is possible to create the setting you want without it costing a fortune. It is well worth considering the use of energy efficient lighting to control costs and minimise future maintenance commitments.

Fibre optic technology offers considerable advantages over conventional lighting, including low maintenance and low running costs.

According to Absolute Action, one of the leaders in the field, developments in fibre optic lighting systems over the past decade have been dramatic.

As well as the bottom line advantages - and the knock-on benefits for the environ-

ment - fibre optic lighting provides designers with greater flexibility and versatility in meeting the challenges associated with today's environments.

Brighton's Grand Hotel is one establishment which has taken advantage of fibre optic lighting from Absolute Action.

The magnificent conservatory, with seafront aspect, features designed lighting which is both romantic and dramatic.

The fibre optic elements in the overall scheme are intended to lift the drama with a touch of glitter and shimmer, as well as enhance the feeling of openness within this gracious space with a not-too-studied simulation of a starry night sky.

Powered by two light sources, a total of a little over 500 optics of varying sizes was all that was required to generate this attractive decor effect.

Not only is the inner space a joyous experience from within, but passers-by may also appreciate the scene through the glazed aspect on to the promenade.

This is a prime example of a fibre optic lighting scheme which is simplicity itself in concept, economical both to install and operate, and highly effective in application.