

# How to increase the lifetime of AGL Assets

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# Three main elements that impact the quality and longevity of all AGL Assets.

#### **ADB GROUP ≡**

### 1 Design

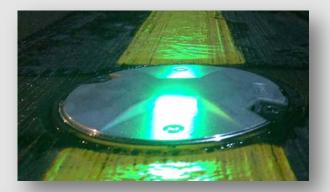


# Three main elements that impact the quality and longevity of all AGL Assets.



### 2 Installation



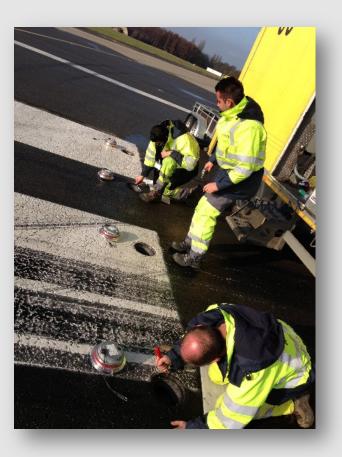




# Three main elements that impact the quality and longevity of all AGL Assets.



### 3 Maintenance









# Main causes for unserviceability



# Lights with halogen lamps: Most of the maintenance operations are the result of a lamp breakage

Other maintenance operations are much less frequent and can often be carried out during lamp replacement:

- Dirty or scratched prisms
- Small leakages
- Minor mechanical damages

# LEDs are the solution to strongly reduce the maintenance costs (by more than 90%)

But the other causes for degradation remain and must be cared for

### Why maintenance remains key even with the fast transition to LED.



#### LED means less maintenance but not no maintenance:

- Degradation of the photometry
- Mechanical degradation
- Impact of lightning
- Electrical breakdowns

### To get this:





# Degradation of the photometry

#### Degradation of the photometry



### The rule:

Annexe 14, Para. 10.4

Limits the number of unserviceable lights

#### Specifically:

10.4.1 A light shall be deemed to be unserviceable when the main beam average intensity is less than 50 per cent of the value specified in the appropriate figure in Appendix 2.

#### How to know?

By regular photometric measurements

#### Key causes of degradation:

- Rubber and dirt deposits
- Wear of the prisms



The decrease in performance of the LEDs over time is negligible!

# How to keep lights serviceable? Important design criteria



#### Avoid the reduction of the photometric performances:

The light must remain serviceable at all times!

A few criteria:

### Design

Well protected prisms, deep in a narrow optical channel





Sapphire coating reduces scratches on prisms...

Strongly !!!

(result of sand blasting test)

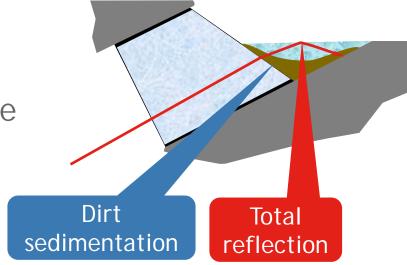
## How to keep lights serviceable? Important design criteria



### Design

No part of the prism below ground level

A serviceable light might become unserviceable under heavy rain!



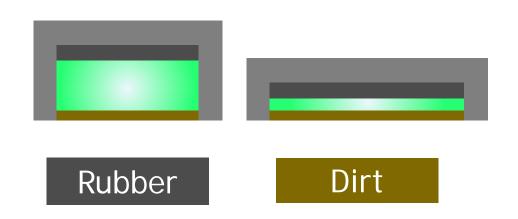
... and remain unserviceable when the water evaporates!

#### Normal (12.7 mm) or low (6.3 mm) protrusion?



### Low protrusion lights?

Yes because they reduce damages by snow ploughs, push-backs,



#### ... but ...

No because the prism gets quicker dirty

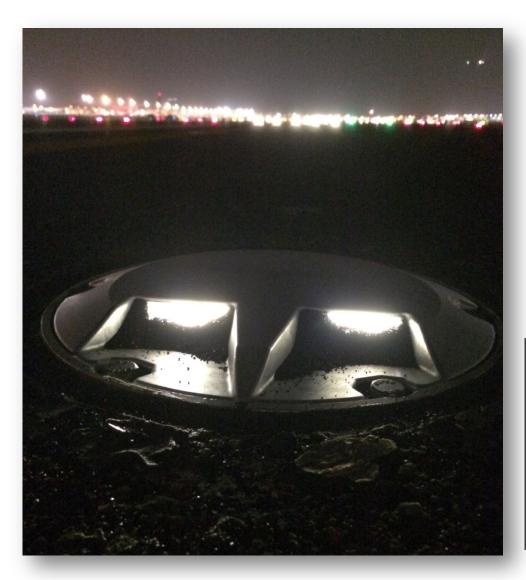
Hence: customers' choice, depending on local conditions

#### Could even be a mix:

- Low on the apron
- Normal elsewhere

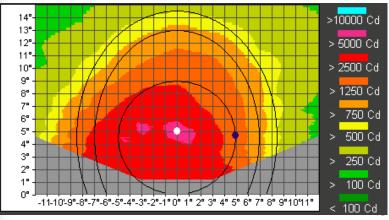
### How to keep lights serviceable? But also...





# ...a bit of cleaning does not hurt...

- Especially when photometric output is deteriorating, maintenance should be increased
- In-field photometric testing allows to foresee and to cure





# Mechanical degradation

### Mechanical degradation Causes and consequences



#### Causes

- Violent shocks: push-backs, heavy trucks during refurbishment works, snow plows,....
- Constant vibrations

#### And further accelerated by

- Bad installation
  - Badly installed (vertically or horizontally) or badly glued base
  - Base or ring of bad quality or wrong dimensions
  - Presence of gravel between base and light
- Wrong maintenance
  - Use of aggressive products that impact the aluminum, gaskets ,...
  - Wrong torqueing or loosening of the tightening screws

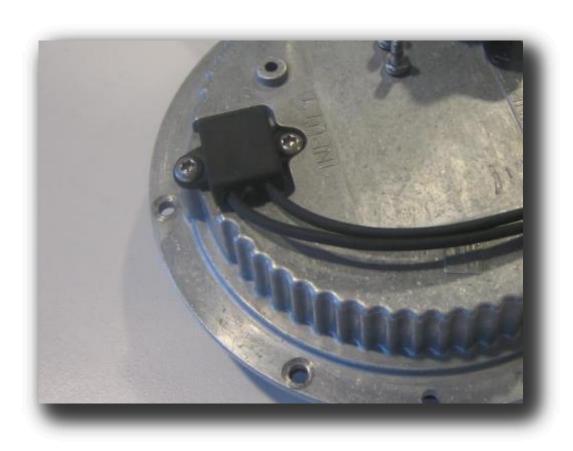
#### Consequences

- Destruction of the cover
- Broken prisms
- Water penetration
- Components failures



## How to keep lights serviceable? An example, how design matches serviceability at ADB





#### **Outstanding protection**

- Small, well protected prism
- Second watertight compartment with LEDs, electronics, cables and connectors
- Watertight cable entry

### How to keep lights serviceable? An example, how design matches serviceability at ADB



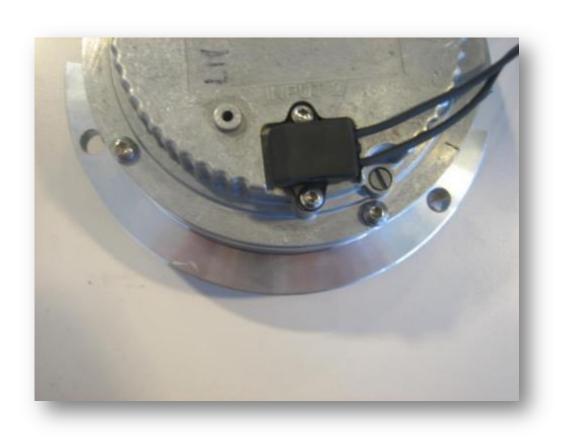


#### Easy maintenance

- Replaceable leads without opening the light
- Easily replaceable prisms thanks to shape and...
- Torx screws

## How to keep lights serviceable? An example, how design matches serviceability at ADB





#### And more...

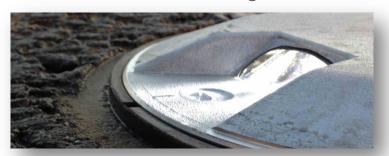
- Tangential cable input
- Re-design of electronics for better reliability in adverse conditions

## Good installation practices ... and some poor examples



### One principle: avoid increasing shocks and vibrations

#### Do not install too high



Clean the supporting flange from gravel, sand or dirt before installing the light

#### Make sure the base is correctly glued



Make sure the specified tightening torque is applied



### Mechanical degradation Tips & Tricks



#### **Tips**

Lights and bases are designed as an assembly, with optimum tolerances that reduce the effect of external shocks and vibrations, so:

- Avoid mixing products from different sources
  The labyrinth gasket ensures horizontal shock absorption:
- Always use the gasket, even on drained bases Due to the reliability of the LEDs, the maintenance intervals have a tendency to become longer but...
- Verify regularly the torqueing and the bolt fixation



### Impact of lightning

### The Impact of Lightning What?

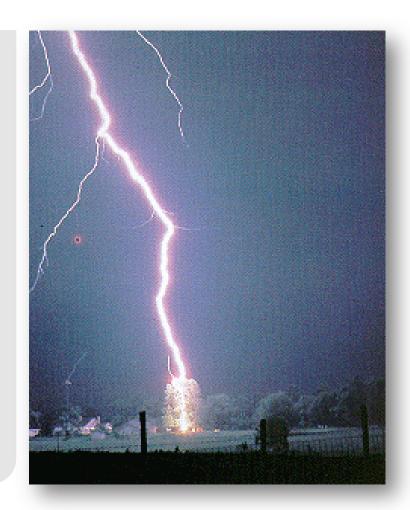


Phenomenon difficult to control on a horizontal system

Solutions are never fully guaranteed

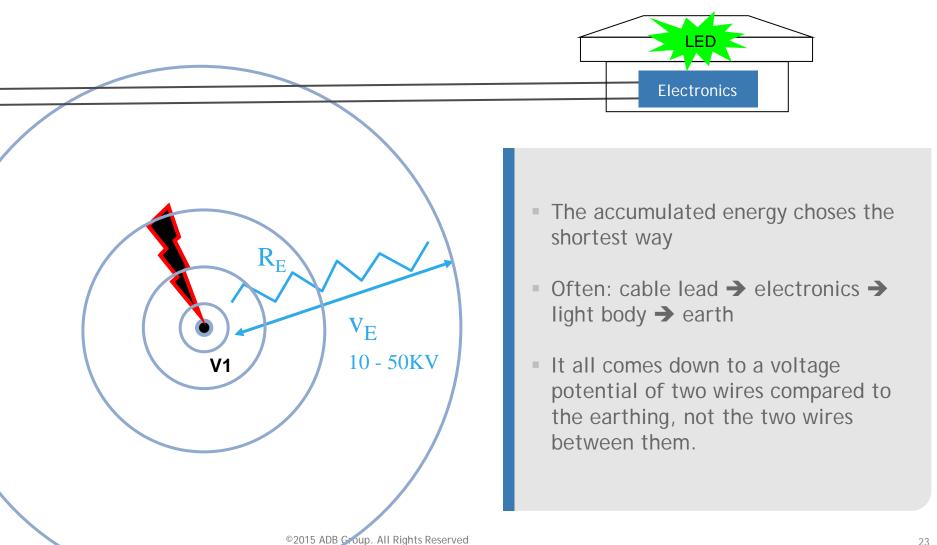
On the good side: an inset light is like a Faraday's cage, protecting the inside against external overvoltages

Entry level: the secondary cable lead



#### The Impact of Lightning How it works?



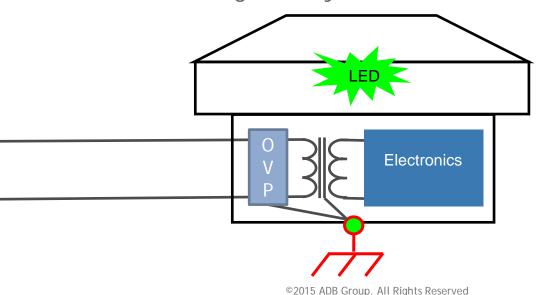


### The Impact of Lightning A solution



#### How ADB limits the impact of lightning:

- Transformer at the entrance of the light ensures a first galvanic insulation
- If the overvoltage exceeds +/- 3 kV, the "controlled discharge way" runs via the light body to the base to the earth



Critical: a good earthing

## The Impact of Lightning How to protect?

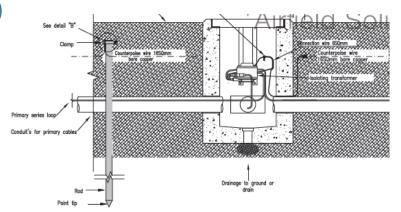


#### Where to find useful information:

- ICAO design manual, Part 5
- FAA advisory Circular AC 150/5340-30
- ADB Design Manual

# Important considerations (min. requirements for normal conditions)

- 16 mm<sup>2</sup> Counterpoise wire ABOVE the primary circuit
- An earthing rod every2 transformer pit or every 300m max.
- A 6mm<sup>2</sup> earthing wire between the fitting and the counterpoise





### Electrical breakdowns

#### Electrical Breakdowns - It's not all about LED lifetime



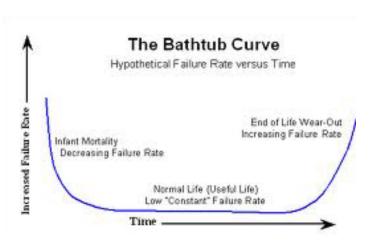
#### Lifetime of LEDs

- In general, lumen output decreases with time
- L70 conventionally used as end of life
- The L70 lifespan lies between 50 to 100.000 hours
- With an average brightness of 10%, the lifetime passes the 500.000 hour mark
- The question however is not with the lifetime but in the (statistical) breakdowns of all electronic components, including LEDs

#### Mean Time Between Failures

Or to put it more correctly:

#### Mean Time To Failure



### Electrical Breakdowns - It's not all about LED lifetime



### Design

- Thanks to a careful design of the electronic boards (including LED PCBs), the measured MTBF of ADB inset lights installed all over the world averages more than 200,000 hours
- Solutions like the double watertightness barrier and the watertight cable entry protect the electronics and the LEDs against water damages

#### Installation

 Careful installation, by reducing the shocks and vibrations, reduces the failure rate of components



# The importance of great maintenance

## For the longevity and the correct functioning of the lights maintenance is key



- 1. Set up a full preventive maintenance
- 2. Regular visual inspection
- 3. Regular maintenance to inspect torqueing and prisms
- 4. Regular photometric measurements as defined by ICAO/FAA





### AirSide™ Asset Management & Maintenance Maintenance made easy: Web Interface - Heatmap







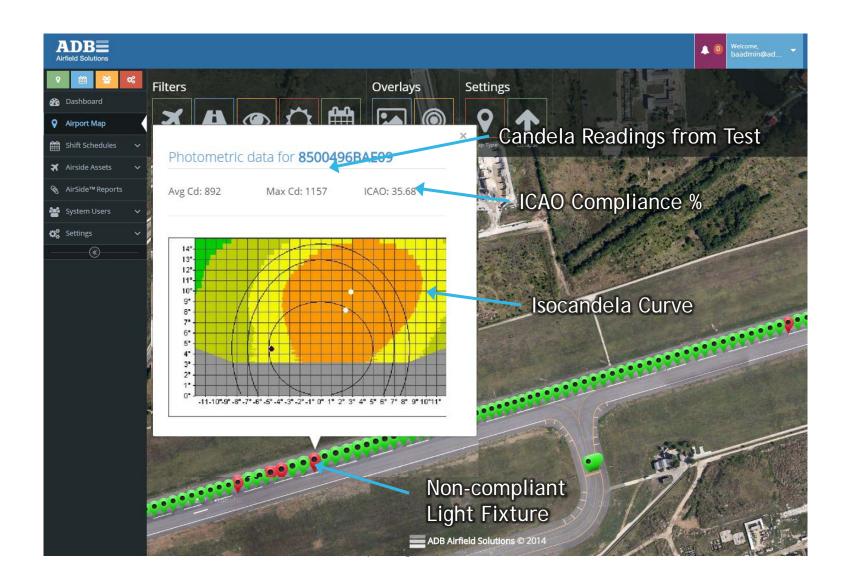
### AirSide™ Asset Management & Maintenance Maintenance made easy: Web Interface - Congestion Map

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### AirSide™ Asset Management & Maintenance Maintenance made easy: Incorporating Photometric Data



#### ADB's LED Focus and Expertise



- Our LED products are suited for all weather conditions, from -40C to +55C (75C pavement) and 100% humidity
- Our LED solutions have by design a longer MTBF
- Our LED products are designed for easy and low maintenance thereby increasing availability of run- and taxiways
- Environmental footprint reduction and higher energy efficiency are part of our strategy, in an end to end process (from design to production are fully controlled)
- Superior quality of our LED products owing to our extensive experience, testing and validation

Thanks to our experience with LEDs our lights are much more than lights with LEDs

#### ADB's LED portfolio: Common Benefits



#### All ADB LED lights feature common benefits

- High MTBF
  - Generally above 200,000 hours
- Significant reduction in maintenance costs
  - Only 1 to 2% of the lights need to be serviced each year
- Drastic reduction in energy consumption
  - Typically 70% reduction
- Increased availability of the airfield
  - Less closures for maintenance
- Increased safety
  - Fewer unserviceable lights
  - Less maintenance vehicles and staff on the field
- Better conspicuity
  - Saturated colors or crystal clear white
  - Same color in all directions, at all brightness step
- Direct replacement of halogen lights
  - Same base or mounting support
  - Same CCR, same transformer

They address
market expectations:
More than
800,000
lights installed
the world over!



# Thank you for your attention!