Hea01

Visual comfort

Glare Control

Actions:

i. Identify areas at risk from glare
ii. Assess areas at risk from glare
iii. Mitigate potential glare

i. Areas at risk from glare

Areas at risk of glare using a glare control assessment should be identified. The glare control assessment should also justify any areas deemed not at risk of glare.

Where risk has been identified within a relevant building area, a glare control strategy should be used to design out the potential for glare.

The glare control strategy should not increase energy consumption used for lighting. This is achieved by:

- Maximising daylight levels in all weather, cloudy or sunny AND
- Ensuring the use or location of shading does not conflict with the operation of lighting control systems.

ii. Glare control assessment

A glare control assessment is used to determine the areas of the building that are at risk of glare, including a demonstration of the building areas not at risk. This can be achieved through a survey of or modelling of the relationship between sunlight and the building. Design studies can be used to demonstrate that glare cannot reach the eyes of building occupants, or the computer screens they are using, during occupied hours.

Where compliant shading measures are specified for all relevant building areas regardless of the risk of glare, a glare control assessment is not necessary. The glare control strategy should demonstrate building design measures are specified for all relevant building areas, while also complying with the criteria.

iii. Mitigate potential glare

Control of glare from the sun is required in spaces with computer workstations such as offices, laboratories, study bedrooms, libraries, control rooms and reception desks. It is also required in spaces where people spend time in fixed locations such as classrooms, hospital wards, court rooms and factory production lines.

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Compliant shading measures for meeting glare control criteria can include:

- building-integrated measures (e.g. overhangs or fins)
- occupant-controlled devices such as opaque Venetian or close weave fabric blinds, (where the openness factor of blinds is 1% or less, and where the fabric light transmittance value is < 0.1 (10%))
- external shading or brise soleil.
- or a combination of the above.

Glare control must provide shading from both high-level summer and low-level winter sun. Design studies can be used to demonstrate the sunlight is prevented from reaching the eyes of building occupants, or the computer screens they are using, during occupied hours.

Curtains (where used without other forms of shading) do not meet the criteria for the glare control credit. This is because they do not provide sufficient control to optimise daylight into the space. As such, the use of curtains to control glare is likely to cause occupants to rely more on artificial lighting.

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