

## PANTONE® LIGHT BOOTH USAGE INSTRUCTIONS

Your purchase of a PANTONE Light Booth ensures you that consistent quality control for color-critical product categories is finally possible! This holistic visual color assessment system starts with state-of-the-art light sources capable of meeting practically any brand owner's specification. Get started with the following preparation steps and usage tips.

### 1) Unpack

Carefully unpack your new Light Booth and place it on a flat and sturdy surface. Do not plug it in until the appropriate voltage has been selected.

### 2) Check voltage

Our PANTONE Light Booths can be used with any of the worldwide power standards. CAUTION: Do not change voltage or check fuses or replace fuses while the Light Booth is plugged in. Locate the Fuse Drawer on the rear of the unit and make note of the number exposed in the voltage indicator window. This number represents the AC power setting (VAC). To change the voltage:



**a.** Unplug the Light Booth from the wall outlet, then remove the power cord from the rear of the unit.



**b.** Using a flathead screwdriver, press the tab to remove the voltage selector insert.



**c.** Remove the gray voltage selector and rotate it so the desired voltage value shows through the voltage indicator window.



**d.** Reinsert the voltage selector, confirming that the proper voltage is now showing, and replace the voltage selector insert into the rear of the unit.



**e.** Insert the power cord into the rear of the unit, then plug into the wall outlet.

### 3) Operation

Once the voltage has been checked, it is now safe to plug in the Light Booth and turn it on using the switch located on the rear of the unit.

### 4) Lamp handling

Always use care and allow booth lamps to cool first before handling. Always use lens paper or an equivalent when picking up and replacing halogen lamps as skin oils can interfere with lamp performance.

### 5) Conditions

**a. Test your eyes first** – Using a Light Booth is only effective if your eyes are proven to be capable of judging color accurately. Before making critical color assessment choices, all parties involved in visual evaluation should be tested for accurate color perception. For over 40 years, the Farnsworth Munsell 100 Hue Test has been known as an easy and effective method for evaluating color vision.



**b. Choose lighting conditions carefully** – Make sure you understand and identify the different types of light under which you will need to evaluate product as specified by your customers and by the appropriate viewing lamps. An example might be examining plastic lawn ornaments. You'll want to make sure they look good under each daylight source (D65 and D50 lamps) as well as under fluorescent store lighting (CWF lamp). Check the details of your PANTONE 3 or 5 Light Booth to confirm the light sources available with each.

**c. Minimize external light** – Color is best evaluated if all other surrounding light sources are turned off and your room is dark, with the exception of the light coming from your Light Booth. As light is color, even the slightest emission from a window or nearby desk lamp can affect the color perception of your sample.

**d. De-clutter your space** – Your Light Booth should be completely free and clear of any items that aren't being evaluated for color. Anything within the range of vision can influence the color of the product and distort your analysis.

**e. Your surroundings** – The eye constantly processes light that strikes the retina. As your clothing can also affect color perception, it is advisable to wear neutral colors like white and gray when using a Light Booth.

**f. Sample arrangement** – Although it depends on the product and material, samples are most properly viewed at 0°/45° angle. This can easily be managed in your Light Booth. Simply place the sample on the bottom of the booth, parallel to the light source. If you're comparing samples, lay them side-by-side so they're parallel and touching as even slight space between colors can confuse the eye. It is suggested that you move the samples around – especially for curved or oddly shaped items – move left-to-right and top-to-bottom to check for color changes.

**g. Quick check** – Although it may seem logical that staring at an item will help you focus, the eyes actually become less sensitive after 5-10 seconds of staring at the same object. It is recommended to look quickly at an object when assessing color, then rest the eyes before evaluating again.

**h. Metamerism alert** – Metamerism is a phenomenon in which objects match under one light source, but don't match under another. This is a common effect when dyes, paints or pigments are changed during production. Metamerism can be checked by viewing samples under a variety of different light sources.

**i. Evaluate frequently** – The more often sample colors are evaluated, the earlier issues can be identified and reworks avoided.

**j. Create a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)** – When you establish the best process and evaluation environment, record and share the defined standards with others involved in your work practices. A Standard Operating Procedure will help ensure more consistent evaluation and control the data flow among the different parties.

## **6) Care**

We encourage proper cleaning of the Light Booth. Use a lint-free cloth to wipe the inside of the booth clean. Do not apply liquid cleaners or agents containing wax, as these can yellow and change the reflectance and gloss properties. For cleaning the outer surface, use a dampened cloth containing a mild soap.

## **7) Product support and repair**

Purchase of your PANTONE Light Booth grants you a convenient range of on-site and depot services. With the exception of lamp replacement, do not attempt to service this product yourself, as unauthorized repairs will invalidate an active warranty of your unit. If your booth has been dropped or damaged, has had water or other liquid(s) spilled into the electrical components, does not operate properly, or needs other servicing or recertification, simply contact your local X-Rite Pantone representative for more information. [http://www.xrite.com/support\\_repair.aspx](http://www.xrite.com/support_repair.aspx)

## **8) Warranty**

Please note: In the unlikely event of a fault occurring, this Light Booth is protected under a one-year warranty. Do not attempt to service this product yourself as unauthorized repairs will invalidate an active warranty of your unit. Please refer to the user manual included inside the Light Booth packaging for more warranty details and information.