



## **Readily available and unique in design**

**SCHOTT has developed a range of modular reading lights that offer advantages for airlines, aircraft manufacturers and suppliers alike.**

*Hamburg/Mainz (Germany), April 5, 2011* – **Manufacturing integrated reading lights for the seats of airplanes usually means having to make complex technical adjustments and putting up with time-consuming approval processes. SCHOTT is hoping to make things a lot easier by presenting a series of modular reading lights that offer a wide variety of design options at Aircraft Interiors Expo 2011. The standardized technology platform they are based on has been pre-evaluated by major aircraft manufacturers and is thus rather unique.**

Although they look different and go by different names, they belong to the same family. The five reading lights SCHOTT Zenith, Horizon, Cobra, Discus and Polaris meet a wide variety of design needs, yet are based on a single electronic light module. This standardization is designed to make life easier in a number of ways. "In the aviation industry, each and every development contract or product approval procedure consumes an incredible amount of time, resources and money, due to the fact that so many technical and safety demands need to be met. For this reason, the door was already open when we first came up with the unique idea of being able to create customized product designs more quickly by developing one basic technical standard and having it pre-approved," Klaus Portmanns, Business Manager for Aviation at SCHOTT Lighting and Imaging, explains.

Portmanns is convinced that this offers advantages for all sides. The airlines can select from various lighting heads, angles of reflection, swivel arms, lengths, colors, materials and surfaces and thus give their reading lights an unmistakable look. Even the light module's metal housing offers a variety of design possibilities. High intensity LEDs are used here to allow

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for extremely slim models that only use one light diode as their main light source. This also translates into lighter weight and lower power consumption – important factors for use in airplanes.

Seat manufacturers benefit from the fact that the standardized platform for the lights is designed to suit various technical requirements. For instance, the reading light family is compatible with the mandatory electrical supply voltage and covers the full normal range of 5 to 28 volts – a unique advantage, according to SCHOTT. This means aircraft manufacturers no longer need to make the same types of technical adjustments they had to in the past, including the respective approvals. This, in turn, saves a lot of time and effort, due to the fact that the standard platform only needs to be improved once, instead of having to test the technology featured in each new light. After all, the approval criteria vary from manufacturer to manufacturer and aircraft to aircraft.

Together with major aircraft manufacturers, SCHOTT has developed criteria catalogues on the basic approval of its technical lighting platform. All of these tests have been passed already. Initial shipments to customers have also taken place, Portmanns notes. “We consider ourselves to be on the way to developing a new industry standard. All parties involved now stand to benefit from products that are available more quickly, greater freedom of design and radically simplified processes – according to our motto ‘Design and Simplicity’.”

*Number of characters: 3,446 (including empty spaces)*

*SCHOTT is an international technology group that has been developing and producing speciality materials, components, and systems for over 125 years. The company’s core markets are the household appliance industry, solar power, pharmaceuticals, electronics, optics, the automotive industry and architecture. SCHOTT Group maintains close proximity to its customers with manufacturing and sales companies in all major markets. Its workforce of around 17,500 employees generated worldwide sales of approximately 2.9 billion euros for the 2009/2010 fiscal year. The company’s technological and economic expertise is closely linked with its social*

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*and ecological responsibility. At the same time, SCHOTT strongly supports the principles of sustainability. SCHOTT AG is owned by the Carl Zeiss Foundation.*

*SCHOTT Aviation has been active in the area of cabin illumination since the early 1990s. Today, its product portfolio includes general illumination, ambient scenario and seat illumination solutions. In addition, optoelectronic components on the basis of glass-to-metal and ceramic-to-metal seals, and special optical glasses and coatings all make important contributions to greater safety on board an aircraft.*



The modular reading light series from SCHOTT combines the advantages of standardization with the desire for individual design. The five lamp heads that customers can choose from are characteristic of this range of reading lights. They can even be configured to include other parameters like angle of reflection, swivel arm, length, colors, materials and surfaces, if necessary.

These photographs can be downloaded in print quality under:  
<http://www.schott-pictures.net/presskit/103644.modular-reading-lights>

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## PRESS INFORMATION

# SCHOTT

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