



DarkSky Submission Service

Lighting the future without stealing the night. Our DarkSky Submission Service helps outdoor luminaires meet the world's leading criteria for dark-sky protection. From pre-check to submission, we turn complex requirements into a clear path to certification.

www.vde.com/light-en

VDE

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As the night grows brighter, the requirements for responsible lighting grow stricter.

Environmental Issues

Light pollution is increasingly recognized as an environmental and societal issue, affecting ecosystems, human health, and night sky visibility. In response, cities, municipalities, and protected areas are tightening outdoor lighting requirements, calling for luminaires that reduce glare, limit blue-rich light, and prevent upward emission.

For manufacturers, this increases complexity: products must combine performance and efficiency with verifiable compliance to light-pollution criteria, while interpreting regulations, preparing documentation, and managing certification processes becomes more demanding.

A Clear Path to DarkSky Approval

VDE's DarkSky Submission Service supports manufacturers throughout the DarkSky Approved certification process. We assess product eligibility, perform expert pre-checks of technical documentation, and guide each submission step in line with DarkSky International's requirements.

Our structured approach helps ensure that luminaires meet strict criteria for shielding, glare control, and spectral output before formal submission.

Responsible Outdoor Lighting at Night

Follow DarkSky's **Five** Principles for Responsible Outdoor Lighting at Night (ROLAN) to prevent, or help minimize light pollution:

1 Useful

Use light only where it serves a clear and ne-cessary purpose.



2 Targeted

Direct light precisely where it is needed and prevent spill or upward emission.



3 Low-Level

Apply the lowest illumination level required to ensure safety and visibility.



4 Controlled

Operate lighting only when needed through appropriate control systems.



5 Warm-Colored

Prefer warmer color temperatures and limit blue-rich spectral content.





Berlin at night: a dense web of urban light, illustrating the scale and impact of artificial illumination.

The VDE Competence

VDE combines long-standing expertise in lighting technology, photometric testing, and certification with a strong focus on environmentally responsible outdoor lighting. Our specialists evaluate key parameters such as luminous intensity distribution, glare control, shielding, spectral distribution, and upward light emission. As an independent and internationally recognized organization, VDE supports manufacturers in systematically meeting light-pollution mitigation requirements.

Through close alignment with international standards, we translate DarkSky principles in-to clear, actionable steps. From eligibility assessment to structured submission support, VDE helps ensure correct interpretation of criteria and reliable compliance – reducing uncertainty and enabling market-ready luminaires for projects where responsible lighting is increasingly required.

Your Benefits

Partnering with VDE for your DarkSky submission provides clarity, security, and efficiency throughout the certification process:

- Reduced risk of rejection through early technical and documentation checks
- Faster and more efficient submission process with clear guidance
- Independent expertise aligned with DarkSky International requirements
- Increased market acceptance in environmentally sensitive and regulated projects

With VDE's support, you can navigate the DarkSky submission process smoothly while demonstrating your commitment to responsible, environmentally conscious lighting.

For more information, visit us online.



www.vde.com/light-en
lighting@vde.com

VDE Prüf- und Zertifizierungsinstitut GmbH
Merianstraße 28 | D-63069 Offenbach

Tel. +49 (0)69 8306-0
Fax +49 (0)69 8306-555