

# **Install Notes**

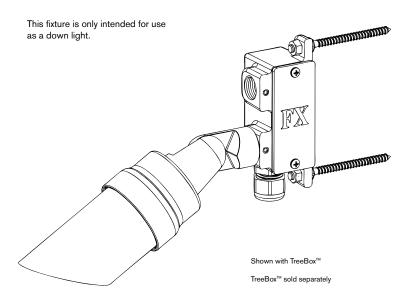
We have developed this series of field installation guidelines to assist you in correctly installing fixtures and transformers ensuring customer satisfaction and trouble-free service. If you have any questions, please call your local distributor or the FX TechLine at I-800-733-2823 before proceeding. Follow all NEC guidelines and local electrical codes. For further info, see our website: www.FXL.com



# **MacchiaDiscendre**

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

### **Downlight**



### **Installation Guidelines**

To re-lamp, loosen lens cap setscrew, remove lamp, and carefully insert a new lamp (not to exceed 50 watts). To install cap, start it on an angle so it's halfway on, then twist and push down as if it was threaded. The shield may be twisted from side to side to orient it as desired. The set screw on the base of the fixture is to secure the lens shroud and should always be tightened for use as a down light.

For high performance and predictable lamp life, supply fixture with 10.5-11.5 volts with all lamps installed and operating.

Important Safety Instructions for MD-50

**WARNING**: To reduce the risk of fire or injury to persons: Turn off/unplug and allow to cool before replacing or moving lamps. Lamp gets HOT quickly. Contact only switch and plug when turning fixture on. Do not touch hot lens, guard, or enclosure. Keep away from materials that may burn. Do not touch the lamp at any time. Do not operate the luminaire fitting with a missing or damaged shield.

RISK OF FIRE WARNING: DO NOT USE FX FIXTURES WITH ANY STYLE OF TRANSFORMER THAT EXCEEDS 14 VOLTS ON THE SECONDARY.

### Why Use the LiteSplice?

Without a waterproof splice connection, any system will develop voltage loss and low grade shorts. Below is our proven method of ensuring you and your client years of trouble-free high performance from the FX System.

FX does NOT recommend the use of Quick Clip style connectors or pre-filled wirenuts because they are not waterproof and can rot out creating resistance and shorts.



Begin with a 12,10, or 8 gauge direct burial low voltage cable mainline. (Use stranded 12 gauge THHN 120V style wire for conduit runs such as wall lights or trellis lights.)



Cut the mainline cable in half and strip back <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" of the insulation from each side to expose the multi-strand copper conductor



Join one of the fixture's conductors to each side of the mainline as shown in the diagram. Since there is no polarity in low voltage, it doesn't matter which side is which when joining the conductors together. Install a wirenut on each side. Now is the time to test the individual circuits (cables) for voltage drop. If you followed the Circuiting Guidelines included with the FX MultiTap Transformer, you should be able to provide each fixture with between 10.5–11.5 volts with all lamps installed and operating. Test now before you install the SpliceGel because it is easier to insert the VoltMeter's probes inside the wirenuts to get a reading.



Pump about two squeezes of SpliceGel into a baggie, and insert both wirenut connections into it. Push out the air, and work the Gel into the bottom of the wirenut assuring a waterproof connection. Install the cable tie as shown and cinch down to complete connection. The Gel will become hard in about 3 days. We recommend leaving 12–18" of slack at each fixture to allow for relocation or if you need to splice in additional cables in the future. Since this is a permanent splice solution, you will need to cut it off and start from scratch to add cables to the splice.



## System Layout

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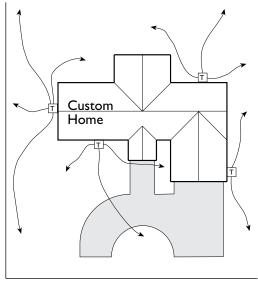


#### Single Transformer

When using only one transformer, it is very important to center the transformer on the wattage load. If the project calls for 135 watts in both front and back yard, the PX-300 or PX-600 should be centered on the side of the house that will receive the most lighting. A common mistake is to locate the single transformer on the service side of the house or in the garage, which might result in excessively long cable runs to reach lighted areas. The primary goal in laying out low voltage systems is to minimize cable runs because of the negative effect voltage drop has on lamp output performance.

#### **Multiple Transformers**

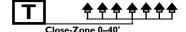
A common mistake in laying out multiple transformer circuits is to group several transformers in one location because of utility or visual considerations only. As with any low voltage layout, the prime directive should be to locate the transformers as close to the fixtures as possible in order to minimize cable runs and resulting voltage drop. The other multi-transformer layout consideration is "use zoning". Having several transformers allows the client to selectively control light in separate areas. This approach is similar to irrigation design in that the goal is to individually control areas that have similar needs. In lighting, a recreation area has different lighting needs than does a front entry. Therefore, the lights that serve these different lighting use areas need to be on separate transformers and switch controls.



Sample diagram of home with transformer and lamp placement

### **Circuiting Guidelines**

Loads PER CABLE
Add cable runs as necessary



12 Gauge-160 watts max. 10 Gauge-180 watts max. 8 Gauge-220 watts max.

12 Gauge-120 watts max. 10 Gauge-140 watts max. 8 Gauge-200 watts max.

12 Gauge-100 watts max. 10 Gauge-120 watts max. 8 Gauge-180 watts max.

Out There-Zone 120–160'
12 Gauge-60 watts max. 10 Gauge-100 watts max. 8 Gauge-160 watts max.

## Lamp Life

- Lamp life is rated in hours of operation. If lamps are rated for 4000 hours at 12 volts it means that at 4000 hours, 50% of the lamps are still working and 50% are not.
- For maximum light output, tune lighting circuits to provide between 11.5 and 12.0 volts as measured at lamp terminals when all of the lamps on the circuit are operating.
- For longer lamp life, adjust voltage down so lamps receive between 10.5 and 11.5 volts at the lamp terminals.
- Voltage can be regulated by adjusting circuit load/run by using FX PotenzaX Transformers.
- To determine circuit voltage, use FX Digital Voltmeter.

Volts at Lamp	Lamp Life of Rated	Lumen Output of Rated
13.0*	50%	350%
12.5*	75%	175%
12.0	100%	100%
11.5	200%	80%
11.0	300%	75%
10.5	500%	65%
10.0	900%	50%

<sup>\*</sup>This voltage is not recommended