

A sense of security

A robust version of the sensor-switched floodlights seen in gardens the length and breadth of Britain – and this is equipped with LEDs

How many factories and warehouses do you pass at night and see fully lit car parks and loading bays, needlessly burning energy and causing light pollution?

The excuse is often that the lights are on for security purposes or for CCTV cameras to work properly. An alternative would be to use lights switched by passive infrared (PIR) sensors. Halogen floodlights combined with sensors have been around for over 20 years and have been overused in the home, becoming so cheap that it's often cheaper to replace the whole unit than buy just the lamp.

These low cost units are not suitable for the professional market because repeated switching of halogen drastically reduces lamp life, as does vibration. And you don't expect to get a durable product for just over £10. PIR sensors don't work well with other mainstream exterior light sources because the warm-up and re-strike times mean you don't have instant light.

Technology bundle

However, as we preach all day, the most efficient lights are those that aren't on, so the clever folks at Steinel have bundled together a raft of technology to produce a high quality product for this kind of application.

The XLED series comprises two powerful LED floodlights, rated at 25 and 60W. The later pumps



out an impressive 2,000 lm, equivalent to 180W of linear halogen. The floodlight can be combined with an extensive range of sensor technology, from combined units or remote-mounted PIR to slave options and a multi-channel remote control.

The important point is that the sensors are wirelessly linked to the floodlights and are ideal for retrofit projects, where it can be expensive to change the wiring. Remote-mounted sensors are battery-powered and have a range of 100m in open areas, and 30m indoors.

Security in numbers


For example, in an area with multiple loading bays, the XLED floodlights could be mounted at high level and controlled by multiple sensors at key access points. Floodlights can be combined into groups, so one sensor can trigger multiple floodlights.

When not activated by a sensor, floodlights can either switch off or return to a default 10 per cent illumination level – more than enough light for modern CCTV systems and basic security level illumination. Any on-site security personnel can trigger the system using a remote control.

Don't expect to be getting one for £10, however; Steinel boasts German quality. We all know German quality in a car, but what about in a light fitting? In Steinel's case this means a very robust construction, the products are easy to install, remove just one screw to access the XLEDs wiring compartment, and unplug the light head while you complete the wiring. The system is easy to set up and set up to work with remote controls and sensors.

Pleasant surprise

The XLED can tilt in two independent axis and can be adjusted by over 200 degrees. A surprise when opening the unit was a built-in miniature spirit level to ensure you mount the unit perfectly level.

In short high quality German engineering that combines all the advantages of LEDs and intuitive controls to deliver a product that is an excellent solution to a range of utility lighting applications, saving energy and reducing maintenance costs. 



 **RECOMMENDS**
Steinel XLED Series

POWER 25 and 60W
SOURCE LEDs
OUTPUT 2,000 lm Max
TILT 200 degrees

OUR VERDICT:



We love this. A quality bit of kit with oodles of functionality. The wireless connection means it's great for retrofit. Let's hope it puts an end to bonkers 300W halogen. Our second-ever five-star award.

WHERE WE DID THE TESTS

The Lux benchtest was carried out by Lux TSI at its UL-approved lab in Bridgend. All the company's goniophotometric, goniospectroradiometric and integrating sphere spectroradiometric system equipment are all fully calibrated and traceable to a National Measurement Institute (NMI).

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