

SUBJECT: VL3500 Wash / Wash FX Luminaire Software Release	SERIES: 3000
DISTRIBUTION: Service Centers, End Users	STATUS: Routine

Introduction

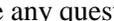
Embedded Software Release

Vari-Lite has a new software release for VL3500 Wash / Wash FX Luminaires. Software version **02/12/13** (file name, **VL3500WFX_021213.bin**) is now available for download and installation. Vari-Lite recommends all owners and users of the VL3500 Wash / Wash FX Luminaires download and install this new version of software from the Support section of the Vari-Lite web site (www.vari-lite.com). Please review this bulletin in its entirety before downloading and installing the software.

Note: VL3500 Wash / Wash FX Luminaires manufactured on and after **02/21/13** will have this software installed. This software may be loaded in all previously manufactured fixtures.

For instructions on downloading and installing VARI*LITE luminaire software, refer to luminaire's user manual.

For more information on the USB Luminaire Programming Kit (Vari-Lite part number 28.8500.0054), please contact your Authorized VARI*LITE Dealer or Vari-Lite customer service.

If you have any questions regarding this release or your VARI*LITE product, please contact Vari-Lite Customer Service at 1-877-VARILITE (or +1-214-647-7880) or via e-mail at entertainment.service@philips.com.

Release Notes

Updates to VL3500 Wash / Wash FX Luminaire software (02/12/13):

Enhanced Dimmer Snap

The new software now incorporates the feature of a 2-second delay for the "Dimmer Snap" function. This feature utilizes the speed of the strobe blades for the "snapping" effect rather than moving the entire wheel.

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For example, when "Dimmer Snap" is enabled at the console, if the intensity is bumped to "0" (zero) and then back to FULL in less than 2 seconds, the dimmer wheel will not move. Only the strobe blades will open and close. After the 2 seconds, the dimmer wheel will move (taking the shortest path) to the given intensity value.

Enabling this kind of dimmer snap greatly enhances the fixture's ability to utilize console intensity effects, "bump" buttons, and generally quicker perceived performance.

Dimming Curve Options

In the menu structure, a new menu option has been added to accommodate an improvement in the dimmer wheels on new production models. The Dimmer Curve option allows the mixture of older and newer dimmer wheel models in the same environment.

Table 1: Dimmer Wheel Assembly Part Numbers

Fixture	Old Dimmer Wheel Assembly	New Dimmer Wheel Assembly
VL3500 Wash	22.9686.0414	22.9686.4414
VL3500 Wash FX	22.9686.1414	22.9698.0414

The Dimmer Curve option should be set to NORMAL in most circumstances. When the two different dimmer wheel models are used in the same environment, users will notice a difference in the dimming abilities between the two models. In these instances, units with the newer dimmer wheel models should have their Dimmer Curve option set to MATCH so that the dimming curve will match the older dimmer wheel models.

Dimming Curve Options - Setting via On-Board Menu System

The menu option setting is found in the fixture's menu system as follows:

CONFIG > DIM CURVE > NORMAL *or* MATCH

Note: For application and setting notes, refer to ["Dimmer Curve Applications / Settings"](#) on [page 3](#) of this bulletin.

Dimming Curve Options - Setting via Control Channel

This setting is also available through the fixture's control channel. To access this setting via control channel, the following values are to be used (as shown in Table 2).

Table 2: Dimmer Curve Control Channel Values

Operational Setting	Control Channel DMX Value**
DIM CURVE - NORMAL	90 - 92
DIM CURVE - MATCH	93 - 95
<i>**Set value for at least 3 seconds and then give a discrete 0 to control channel</i>	

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Note: For application and setting notes, refer to [“Dimmer Curve Applications / Settings”](#) below.

Dimmer Curve Applications / Settings

- NORMAL Dimmer Curve is the recommended setting for:
 - a. When newer production models or older production models with the new-style dimmer wheels installed are used together **OR**,
 - b. When older production models have the old-style dimmer wheels are used together.
- MATCH Dimmer Curve is the recommended setting for:
 - a. The MATCH setting is applied to newer production models or older production models with the new-style dimmer wheels installed **AND**,
 - b. These units will operate in the same environment with models with the old-style dimmer wheels installed. Note, units with the old-style dimmer wheels (in this scenario) will be set to **NORMAL**.
- Any changes to the Dimmer Curve function are retained after the fixture is disconnected from power or a fixture reset (*not a reset to defaults - see next bullet item*) is performed until changed by the user (or console operator via the control channel).
- When resetting defaults, the **NORMAL** dimmer curve operation setting is enabled (regardless of user’s previous setting).