

Plastic Fibre Optics with Interactive Mini LED Lightsource User Instructions

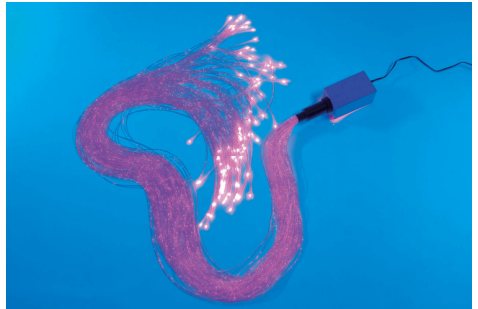
Fibre Optic User Information
October 2010

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Introduction to Fibre Optics

What are Fibre Optics?

Fibre optics provide a stunning, visual and tactile experience. They are safe to stroke, hold, wrap around the body and lie among. The constantly changing colours along the length of the fibres focuses attention whilst having a calming effect.

All fibre optics require a lightsource, these are provided either as packages of fibre optics with the appropriate lightsource or can be supplied as individual units.

What are Interactive Mini LED Lightsources?

Compact and lightweight, silent and without any heat emitted the Mini LED Lightsource removes the necessity of a bulb and fan yet powerfully light up any style of fibre optic effortlessly.

The Interactive Mini LED Lightsources are an alternative to the traditional bulb and fan lightsources and provide interactive options, either a 4 or 8 Wireless Interactive Lightsource or a 4 or 8 Chanel MLT Wireless Interactive Lightsource to encourage hand-eye co-ordination and developing cause and effect skills. The interactivity is denoted by the type of lightsource to which a vast array of fibre optics whether sideglows, curtains or glow walls can be added.

Why is there a need for this type of product?

Our senses tell us about the world in which we exist. Our sense of smell, taste, touch, sight and sound provide the foundation for our understanding and actions. It is only when one or a number of these senses are impaired that parts of the world are less accessible and understanding is diminished.

Multi sensory environments support interaction, discovery and communication encouraging stimulation of the senses vital for those with some sensory impairment and for children at the very beginning of their learning and development.

These environments facilitate faster learning and development through increased awareness of the surroundings and stimulation of the senses - sight, sound, touch and smell.

Such environments are challenging and stimulating for both children and adults, in particular for those with special needs. They provide interactivity for those developing cognitive and physical skills and encourage communication within a unique learning environment.

Multi sensory environments can provide a calming and relaxed atmosphere where professionals are able to observe and

assess clients and monitor and detect changes in ability or just simply promote relaxation for the agitated or stressed.

Multi Sensory environments have now become commonplace in a variety of learning arenas from nurseries and playgroups through to special schools, family centres and nursing homes as a means of education, relaxation and play.

At the heart of any successful environment is its appropriateness to the users.

Whether the environment is a safe soft play area for a group of toddlers at a nursery school where they can explore and develop social skills or a calm, non-threatening environment within a nursing home to promote relaxation, it is the understanding of the users needs and appropriate application of the underlying principles of sensory to ensure the best possible environment.

Fibre optics are intrinsic to many sensory environments providing a host of benefits:

- Relaxing and calming effect
- Encouraging movement—to walk, crawl, explore amongst
- Visual tracking skills
- Tactile work
- Colour matching
- Directional skills
- Fine motor skills
- Encourages communication



Who should consider using Fibre Optics?

More or less any individual can benefit from the properties that a Multi Sensory environment can provide and thus one of the key components, Fibre Optics.

From active and demanding toddlers at a nursery or play group where a soft play area and a selection of portable sensory equipment provide fun, exploration and interaction; to adults and children with learning difficulties where the integration of a switching system can help to develop co-ordination and motor skills; through to the development of an area for relaxation for the elderly or maybe pre and post operative care areas in hospitals for adults and children.

It must however be noted that for some individuals Multi Sensory may not be appropriate as it can confuse and frighten that in turn can lead to aggression, agitation and mistrust. It is important to minimise the propensity for this to occur by creating a non-threatening environment but also to monitor closely the reaction of individuals, keep records and follow a good practice when using any type of environment.

Fibre Optic Product Information

Range

- Fibre Optic Islands
- Glow Walls
- Sideglows
- Fibre Optic Curtains
- Star Carpets, Ceilings, Cloths and Boxes
- Ultra Violet Fibre Optics

Accessories

- Mini LED Lightsource
- Lightsource
- Lightsource covers



Guidelines for Best Practice

To ensure good practice when considering purchasing Fibre Optics and effective use post purchase we advise that the following guidelines are considered:

1. Seek advice and input from a qualified therapist/professional and/or SensoryPlus/Kirton representative.
2. If unsure when ordering any Fibre Optics and any accessories contact your SensoryPlus/Kirton representative or our Customer Services Team on **Freephone 0800 212709 or +44 (0) 1440 705352** to discuss further.
3. It is recommended that following receipt of the Fibre Optics all staff members that will be working with them should be fully trained.



The User Instructions

The purpose of the following user instructions is to provide a guide on how to utilise and maintain the Fibre Optics.

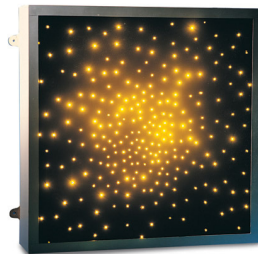
These instructions should be read by all those involved with the supervision of the user and/or the care of the product before use.

The Fibre Optics **must** be set up in terms of positioning and application of its accessories to ensure safe and problem-free use.

Please retain these instructions for future reference.

Questions and Concerns

Should you experience any difficulties or have any concerns regarding the initial purchase or subsequently adjusting the Fibre Optics or have any concerns regarding its use or operation then immediately contact either your SensoryPlus/Kirton representative or our Customer Services Team on **Freephone 0800 212709 or +44 (0) 1440 705352**, they will be delighted to help you.



Delivery

1. The Lightsources are delivered in a damage proof box.
2. When unpacking please make sure the Lightsource is not damaged.
3. If the unit is damaged please report it to **SensoryPlus** immediately on our **Freephone 0800 212709 or +44 (0) 1440 705352**.
4. The Lightsource should already be labelled with SensoryPlus's name and telephone number for future reference.
5. Please retain all packaging as you may need to send the Lightsource back at a later date for servicing.
6. Ensure the plug on the Lightsource mains lead has a 5amp fuse fitted.
7. The Fibre Optics are delivered coiled and secured – remove the tape and the plastic end cap before use.

General Operation of Fibre Optics and LED Lightsource

Lightsources are for use with the fibre optic strands to create the light that reflects down the strands.


The LED lightsource replaces the traditional bulb driven 50w lightsource, removing the bulb (LED's don't use bulb technology) has simultaneously allowed SensoryPlus to dispense with the fan and make the unit much smaller. The product is essentially maintenance free and should run indefinitely without the need for customer intervention.

Installing the Lightsource

Location

1. Stand the unit on a horizontal surface (unless used for a fibre optic curtain) in a dry, dust free location.
2. The unit is suitable for indoor use only.
3. Do not expose to water, condensation or excessive dampness.
4. Do not use in hazardous locations.

Installing the Fibre Optics (also known as Sideglow, Harness, Curtain et al)

1. Insert the fibre optic harness into the circular fitting at the front of the lightsource. 
2. Use the attached 'Alun' key to tighten the screw in the top of the black collar of the Mini Lightsource to lock the harness in position.
3. Plug the lightsource into the mains power or 4-way gang plug and switch on at the back of the unit.

Operation

1. Switching the ON/OFF switch down will turn the lightsource on.
2. Now you are ready to experience the world of fibre optics.

Safety Advice:

Fibre Optic Harness

Fibre optic products should always be used in a supervised environment bearing in mind the following points:

1. The harness should not be placed under excessive strain. Please do not allow users to pull the harness.
2. The harness should always be used in areas away from sharp edges.
3. Always keep the harness away from excessive heat sources (i.e. radiators). 75 degrees centigrade is the maximum working temperature recommended by the manufacturer.
4. If there is a risk of accidental ingestion then please do not use fibre optic products. Caution should be taken not to put them in the mouth in order to avoid swallowing or choking.
5. The lightsource, which houses the harness, should, where possible, be mounted as far away from the user as possible.
6. Never leave the user unsupervised whilst using the harness.
7. SensoryPlus cannot accept any liability for injury or damage caused by the abuse or misuse of these products.



Care and Maintenance:

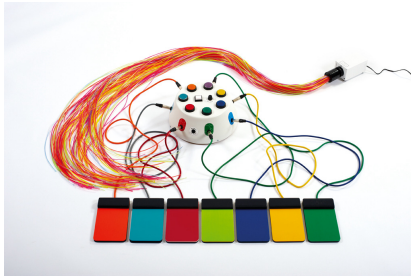
Fibre Optic Harness

1. To keep the harness clean, wash in a solution of mild detergent and antiseptic with warm water.
2. Use a soft cloth to wipe the strands.
3. Do not immerse in water.
4. Dry with suitable soft clean cloth.

Always remove the harness from the lightsource and turn off the electricity supply before cleaning

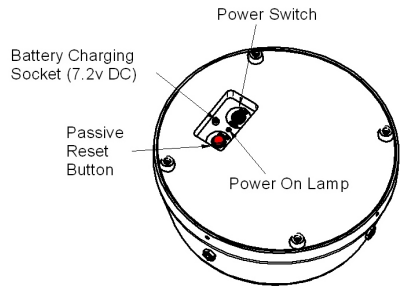


Interactive Lightsources



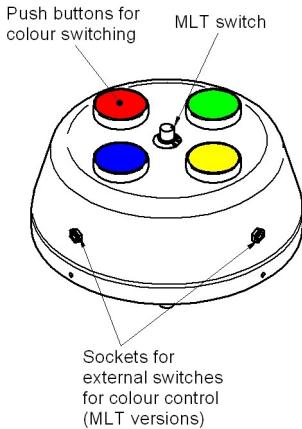
Interactive Lightsources include a remote controlled switch box which allows individual control of the coloured LED lights by means of illuminated push button switches mounted on the box, or via external plug-in switches.

1. The control box is powered by a rechargeable battery. This should give many hours of operation. For maximum battery life, remember to turn off unit when not in use.

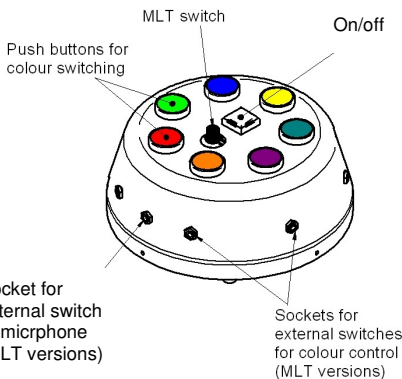


2. To turn on the control box, press the power switch on the underside of the box. A red lamp should illuminate.
3. If the 'power on' lamp does not illuminate, or the control box ceases to operate the lightsource interactively, the battery may need re-charging.
4. To re-charge the battery, plug in the battery charger supplied with the control box.
5. The charger will recharge the battery in approximately 3 hours, and turn off automatically.
6. Unplug the charger after the battery has been fully charged. The control box will not work if the charger is connected.
7. The 4 switch control box allows individual momentary control of 4 colours: red, green, blue and yellow, by pressing the relevant button. Releasing the button will turn the colour off.





8. The coloured LED lights will return to normal cycling mode if no switch is pressed for 5 minutes, or if the red passive reset button (on the underside of the box) is pressed.
9. The 8 button control box allows individual control of 7 colours: red, green, blue, yellow, turquoise, purple and orange, by pressing the relevant button. The square button in the middle allows for control of the lights on/off.




10. Some control boxes include a switch to select momentary, latched and timed operation of the pushbutton switches (MLT versions). This switch is located on the top of the control box.
11. Selecting momentary (MO) will cause the selected colour to light momentarily.
12. Selecting latched (LA) will cause the selected colour to toggle on or off each time the relevant switch is made.
13. Selecting T5, T15, T30 or T60 will cause the selected colour to stay illuminated for a preset time each time the relevant switch is made.
14. Note that on the 8 switch box, control of lights always works in latched mode, irrespective of switch setting.
15. The coloured LED lights will return to normal cycling mode if no switch is pressed for 5 minutes, or if the red passive reset button (on the underside of the box) is pressed.
16. MLT control boxes also include the facility to plug in external switches via jack sockets located around the box under each push button.
17. An external switch can then be plugged in to allow external switching of individual colours. On an 8 switch control box the jack socket for externally switching bubble flow can also accept a microphone input, to allow sound to turn lights on and off.

Helpline

For optimum battery life, make sure the remote control box is turned off after use by pressing the button on the underside of the box, to maximize battery life. The red 'power on' lamp should go out.

Only use the charger supplied with the control box to recharge battery.

Should you have any concerns either pre or post purchase of your Fibre Optics contact our Customer Services Team on **Freephone 0800 212709** or from outside the UK **+44 (0) 1440 705352** to discuss further. Alternatively, if you purchased your Fibre Optics from a Kirton/**SensoryPlus** distributor in the first instance please contact your point of reference there.

If your call concerns a specific product please have ready your sales order number before you telephone, it helps us  identify your details and deal with your enquiry efficiently.

Potential Risks, Cautions and

Warnings

When using the Fibre Optics and Interactive Mini LED Lightsources basic safety precautions should be followed including:

1. Read and understand all instructions before using the equipment.
2. Close supervision is necessary when any appliance is used by, or near, children. Do not leave appliance unattended while in use.
3. The appliance switch is provided with the symbol 'O' indicating 'OFF' and 'I' indicating 'ON'.
4. Do not operate appliance with a damaged cord, or if the appliance has been dropped, or damaged, until it has been examined by a qualified service person.
5. Position the cord so that it will not be tripped over, pulled, or come into contact with hot surfaces.
6. If an extension cord is necessary, a cord with a current rating at least equal to that of the appliance should be used.
7. Always unplug appliance from electrical outlet before cleaning and servicing and when not in use. Never yank the cord to pull plug from outlet. Grasp plug and pull to disconnect.
8. Loop cord loosely around appliance when storing.
9. To reduce risk of electrical shock, do not immerse product in water or other liquids.

10. To reduce the risk of electrical shock, do not dismantle this appliance, but take it to a qualified repairer when servicing is required. Incorrect reassembly can cause electrical shock when the product is used subsequently.
11. Connect this appliance to a grounded outlet.
12. The axis across the width of the lightsource should remain horizontal unless being used with a Fibre Optic Curtain.
13. Qualified service personnel who should work under the authority of the manufacturers recognised agent must carry out the procedures described in the operating instructions.
14. After any maintenance or cleaning all parts must be dry before refitting to the Lightsource.







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