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(54) MODULAR INDIRECT SUSPENDED/CEILING MOUNT FIXTURE
INDIREKTE UND MODULARE HÄNGENDE DECKENSTATIVBEFESTIGUNG
LUMINAIRE INDIRECT MODULAIRE POUR SUSPENSION / MONTAGE AU PLAFOND

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The invention relates to troffer-style lighting fixtures and, more particularly, to troffer-style fixtures that are well-suited for use with solid state lighting sources, such as light emitting diodes (LEDs).

Description of the Related Art

Troffer-style fixtures are ubiquitous in commercial office and industrial spaces throughout the world. In many instances these troffers house elongated fluorescent light bulbs that span the length of the troffer. Troffers may be mounted to or suspended from ceilings. Often the troffer may be recessed into the ceiling, with the back side dissipating heat from the plenum area above the ceiling. Typically, elements of the troffer on the back side dissipate heat generated by the light source into the plenum where air can be circulated to facilitate the cooling mechanism. U.S. Pat. No. 5,823,663 to Bell, et al. and U.S. Pat. No. 6,210,025 to Schmidt, et al. are examples of typical troffer-style fixtures.

More recently, with the advent of the efficient solid state lighting sources, these troffers have been used with LEDs, for example. LEDs are solid state devices that convert electric energy to light and generally comprise one or more active regions of semiconductor material interposed between oppositely doped semiconductor layers. When a bias is applied across the doped layers, holes and electrons are injected into the active region where they recombine to generate light. Light is produced in the active region and emitted from surfaces of the LED.

LEDs have certain characteristics that make them desirable for many lighting applications that were previously the realm of incandescent or fluorescent lights. Incandescent lights are very energy-inefficient light sources with approximately ninety percent of the electricity they consume being released as heat rather than light. Fluorescent light bulbs are more energy efficient than incandescent light bulbs by a factor of about 10, but are still relatively inefficient. LEDs by contrast, emit the same luminous flux as incandescent and fluorescent lights using a fraction of the energy.

In addition, LEDs can have a significantly longer operational lifetime. Incandescent light bulbs have relatively short lifetimes, with some having a lifetime in the range of about 750-1000 hours. Fluorescent bulbs can also have lifetimes longer than incandescent bulbs such as in the range of approximately 10,000-20,000 hours, but provide less desirable color reproduction. In comparison, LEDs can have lifetimes between 50,000 and 70,000 hours. The increased efficiency and extended lifetime of LEDs is attractive to many lighting suppliers and has resulted in their LED lights being used in place of conventional lighting in many different applications. It is predicted that further improvements will result in their general acceptance in more and more lighting applications. An increase in the adoption of LEDs in place of incandescent or fluorescent lighting would result in increased lighting efficiency and significant energy saving.

Other LED components or lamps have been developed that comprise an array of multiple LED packages mounted to a (PCB), substrate or submount. The array of LED packages can comprise groups of LED packages emitting different colors, and specular reflector systems to reflect light emitted by the LED chips. Some of these LED components are arranged to produce a white light combination of the light emitted by the different LED chips.

In order to generate a desired output color, it is sometimes necessary to mix colors of light which are more easily produced using common semiconductor systems. Of particular interest is the generation of white light for use in everyday lighting applications. Conventional LEDs cannot generate white light from their active layers; it must be produced from a combination of other colors. For example, blue emitting LEDs have been used to generate white light by surrounding the blue LED with a yellow phosphor, polymer or dye, with a typical phosphor being cerium-doped yttrium aluminum garnet (Ce:YAG). The surrounding phosphor material "downconverts" some of the blue light, changing it to yellow light. Some of the blue light passes through the phosphor without being changed while a substantial portion of the light is downconverted to yellow. The LED emits both blue and yellow light, which combine to yield white light.

In another known approach, light from a violet or ultraviolet emitting LED has been converted to white light by surrounding the LED with multicolor phosphors or dyes. Indeed, many other color combinations have been used to generate white light.

Some recent designs have incorporated an indirect lighting scheme in which the LEDs or other sources are aimed in a direction other than the intended emission direction. This may be done to encourage the light to interact with internal elements, such as diffusers, for example. One example of an indirect fixture can be found in U.S. Patent No. 7, 222,220 to Van de Ven which is commonly assigned with the present application.


Modern lighting applications often demand high power LEDs for increased brightness. High power LEDs can draw large currents, generating significant amounts of heat that must be managed. Many systems utilize heat sinks which must be in good thermal contact with the heat-generating light sources. Troffer-style fixtures generally dissipate heat from the back side of the fixture that extends into the plenum. This can present challenges as plenum space decreases in modern structures. Furthermore, the temperature in the plenum area is often several
degrees warmer than the room environment below the ceiling, making it more difficult for the heat to escape into the plenum ambient.

SUMMARY

[0012] When viewed from a first aspect the invention provides a lighting assembly as claimed in claim 1.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0013]

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a perspective view of a cut-away portion of a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 4 is another perspective view of a cut-away portion of a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 5a is a perspective view of a cross-sectional portion of a heat sink that can be used in a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 5b is a cross-sectional view of a heat sink that can be used in a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 6 is a perspective view of an end portion of a heat sink that can be used in a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIGs. 7a-c are top plan views of portions of several light strips that may be used in lighting assemblies according to embodiments of the present invention.

FIG. 8 is a perspective view of an end cap that can be used in a lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 9 is a perspective view of a modular lighting assembly according to an embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 10a is a cross-sectional view of a reflector that may be used in lighting assemblies according to embodiments of the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0014] Embodiments of the present invention provide a modular troffer-style fixture that is particularly well-suited for use with solid state light sources, such as LEDs. The fixture comprises a reflector having a surface on one side and a back surface on the opposite side. The back surface includes parallel rails that run along the length of the reflector, providing a mount mechanism as well structural support to the reflector. To facilitate the dissipation of unwanted thermal energy away from the light sources, a heat sink is disposed proximate to the surface of the reflector. The portion of the heat sink facing the reflector functions as a mount surface for the light sources, creating an efficient thermal path from the sources to the ambient. The heat sink, which is exposed to the ambient room environment, is hollow through the center in the longitudinal direction. The hollow portion defines a conduit through which electrical conductors (e.g., wires) can be run to power light emitters. One or more light emitters disposed along the heat sink mount surface emit light toward the reflector where it can be mixed and/or shaped before it is emitted from the troffer as useful light. End caps are arranged at both ends of the reflector and heat sink. One of the end caps houses electronics for powering the light emitters. The end caps are constructed to allow for the easy connection of multiple units in a serial arrangement.

[0015] FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a lighting assembly 100 according to an embodiment of the present invention. The lighting assembly 100 is particularly well-suited for use as a fixture for solid state light emitters, such as LEDs or vertical cavity surface emitting lasers (VCSELS), for example. However, other kinds of light sources may also be used. A reflector 102 is disposed proximate to an elongated heat sink 104, both of which are described in detail herein. The reflector 102 comprises a surface 106 that faces toward the heat sink 104 and a back surface 108 (shown in FIG. 2) on the opposite side. First and second end caps 110, 112 are arranged at both ends of the reflector 102 and the heat sink 104 to maintain the distance between the two elements and provide the structural support for the assembly 100.

[0016] In this embodiment of the lighting assembly 100, the heat sink 104 is exposed to the ambient environment. This structure is advantageous for several reasons. For example, air temperature in a typical residential or commercial room is much cooler than the air above the fixture (or the ceiling if the fixture is mounted above the ceiling plane). The air beneath the fixture is cooler because the room environment must be comfortable for occupants; whereas in the space above the fixture, cooler air temperatures are much less important. Additionally, room air is normally circulated, either by occupants moving
through the room or by air conditioning. The movement of air throughout the room helps to break the boundary layer, facilitating thermal dissipation from the heat sink 104. Also, in ceiling-mounted embodiments, a room-side heat sink configuration prevents improper installation of insulation on top of the heat sink as is possible with typical solid state lighting applications in which the heat sink is disposed on the ceiling-side. This guard against improper installation can eliminate a potential fire hazard.

**FIG. 2** is a perspective view of a cut-away portion of the lighting assembly 100. The reflector 102 and heat sink 104 are mounted to the inside surface of the first end cap 110. In this particular embodiment, these elements are mounted using a snap-fit mechanism which provides reduced assembly time and cost. Other mounting means may also be used, such as pins, screws, adhesives, etc. The first end cap 110 maintains the desired spacing between the reflector 102 and the heat sink 104. The heat sink 104 comprises a mount surface 202 on which light emitters (e.g., LEDs) can be mounted. The mount surface 202 faces the surface 106 of the reflector 102. The emitters can be mounted such that they emit light toward the surface 106, or a certain portion thereof. The emitted light is then reflected off the surface 106 and out into the ambient as useful light.

The reflector 102 can be constructed from many different materials. In one embodiment, the reflector 102 comprises a material which allows the reflector 102 to be extruded for efficient, cost-effective production. Some acceptable materials include polycarbonates, such as Makrolon 6265X or FR6901 (commercially available from Bayer) or BFL4000 or BFL2000 (commercially available from Sabic). Many other materials may also be used to construct the reflector 102. Using an extrusion process for fabrication, the reflector 102 is easily scalable to accommodate lighting assemblies of varying length.

The surface 106 may be designed to have several different shapes and perform particular optical functions, such as color mixing and beam shaping, for example. Emitted light may be bounced off of one or more surfaces, including the surface 106. This has the effect of disassociating the emitted light from its initial emission angle. Uniformity typically improves with an increasing number of bounces, but each bounce has an associated optical loss. In some embodiments an intermediate diffusion mechanism (e.g., formed diffusers and textured lenses) may be used to mix the various colors of light.

The surface 106 should be highly reflective in the wavelength ranges of the light emitters. In some embodiments, the surface 106 may be 93% reflective or higher. In other embodiments it may be at least 95% reflective or at least 97% reflective.

The surface 106 may comprise many different materials. For many indoor lighting applications, it is desirable to present a uniform, soft light source without unpleasant glare, color striping, or hot spots. Thus, the surface 106 may comprise a diffuse white reflector such as a microcellular polyethylene terephthalate (MCPET) material or a Dupont/WhiteOptics material, for example. Other white diffuse reflective materials can also be used.

Diffuse reflective coatings have the inherent capability to mix light from solid state light sources having different spectra (i.e., different colors). These coatings are particularly well-suited for multi-source designs where two different spectra are mixed to produce a desired output color point. For example, LEDs emitting blue light may be used in combination with other sources of light, e.g., yellow light to yield a white light output. A diffuse reflective coating may eliminate the need for additional spatial color-mixing schemes that can introduce lossy elements into the system; although, in some embodiments it may be desirable to use a diffuse surface in combination with other diffusive elements. In some embodiments, the surface may be coated with a phosphor material that converts the wavelength of at least some of the light from the light emitting diodes to achieve a light output of the desired color point.

By using a diffuse white reflective material for the surface 106 and by positioning the light sources to emit light first toward the surface 106 several design goals are achieved. For example, the surface 106 performs a color-mixing function, effectively doubling the mixing distance and greatly increasing the surface area of the source. Additionally, the surface luminance is modified from bright, uncomfortable point sources to a much larger, softer diffuse reflection. A diffuse white material also provides a uniform luminous appearance in the output. Harsh surface luminance gradients (max/min ratios of 10:1 or greater) that would typically require significant effort and heavy diffusers to ameliorate in a traditional direct view optic can be managed with much less aggressive (and lower light loss) diffusers achieving max/min ratios of 5:1, 3:1, or even 2:1.

The surface 106 can comprise materials other than diffuse reflectors. In other embodiments, the surface 106 can comprise a specular reflective material or a material that is partially diffuse reflective and partially specular reflective. In some embodiments, it may be desirable to use a specular material in one area and a diffuse material in another area. For example, a semi-specular material may be used on the center region with a diffuse material used in the side regions to give a more directional reflection to the sides. Many combinations are possible.

The reflector back surface 108 comprises elongated rails 204 that run longitudinally along the reflector 102. The rails 204 perform important dual functions. They provide a mechanism by which the assembly 100 can be mounted to an external surface, such as a ceiling. At the same time, the rails 204 also provide structural support, preventing longitudinal bending along the length of the assembly 100 which allows longer reflector components to be used. The rails 204 may comprise features on the inner and outer surfaces, such as inner flanges 208 and outer flanges 210. The flanges 208, 210 may interface with external elements, such as mounting structures, for...
example, and may take many different shapes depending on the design of the structures used for mounting. The rails 204 may also comprise many other features necessary for mounting or other purposes.

[0026] In this particular embodiment, a U-shaped mount bracket 206 is connected to the inner flange 208. The outer flanges 210 may be used for alternate mounting configurations discussed herein. The mounting bracket 206 removably connects to the rails 204 using snap-fit or slide-fit mechanisms, for example. The mount bracket 206 can be used to mount the light assembly 100 to a surface, such as a ceiling, when the assembly is mounted by suspension. The mounting bracket 206 may be made of metal, plastic, or other materials that are strong enough to support the weight of the assembly 100.

[0027] FIG. 3 is another perspective view of a portion of the lighting assembly 100. In this embodiment, the reflector 102 is connected to the end cap 110 with a snap-fit interface 302. The heat sink 104 (not shown in FIG. 3) may also be connected to the end cap 110 with a snap-fit interface. The end cap 110 may comprise access holes 304 to allow for an electrical conductor to be fed down from a ceiling, for example, if the assembly 100 is to be powered from an external source. The assembly 100 may also be powered by a battery that can be stored inside the end cap 110, eliminating the need for an external power source. The end cap 110 can be constructed as two separate pieces 110a, 110b which can be joined using snap-fit mechanism or screws, for example, so that the end cap can be disassembled for easy access to the electronics housed within. In other embodiments, the end cap pieces 110a, 110b can be joined using an adhesive, for example. The end cap 110 may also comprise a removable side cover 306 to provide access to internal components.

[0028] FIG. 3 also shows an alternate mounting means for the assembly 100. Hanging tongs 308 (shown in phantom) may be used to suspend the assembly 100 from a ceiling. Many buildings currently have this type of hanging mount system with the existing lighting fixtures used therein. Thus, the assembly 100 can be easily retrofit for installation in buildings that already have a mount system. In this particular embodiment, the reflector rails 204 are designed with inner and outer flanges 208, 210. Inner flanges 208 are designed to interface with a mount mechanism such as mounting bracket 206, for example. Outer flanges 210 are designed to interface with a mount mechanism such as hanging tongs 308, for example. It is understood that the reflector 102 can be designed to accommodate many different mounting structures and should not be limited to the exemplary embodiments shown herein.

[0029] FIG. 4 is another perspective view of a cut-away portion of the lighting assembly 100. In this embodiment, the mount bracket 206 hooks on to the underside of the inner flange 208 as shown. The mount bracket 206 may be connected to the inner flange 208 in many other ways as well.

[0030] FIG. 5a is a perspective view of a cross-sectional portion of a heat sink 500 that can be used in the lighting assembly 100. In this embodiment, the heat sink 500 is shaped to define two parallel longitudinal conduits 502 that run along the entire length of the heat sink body 504. The conduits 502 are designed to accommodate wires, cords, cables or other electrical conductors for providing power to light emitters (not shown). The conduits 502 should be large enough to carry the necessary power and signal cords. The heat sink 500 comprises a flat mount surface 506 on which light emitters can be mounted. The emitters can be mounted directly to the mount surface 506, or they can be disposed on a light strip which is then mounted to the mount surface 506 as discussed in more detail herein.

[0031] FIG. 5b is a cross-sectional view of the heat sink 500. A light strip 508 is shown disposed on the mount surface 506. As discussed in more detail herein, the light strip 508 comprises one or more light emitters 510 mounted thereto.

[0032] FIG. 6 shows a perspective view of an end portion of the heat sink 500. A cable 602 is shown passing through one of the conduits 502. The hollow heat sink structure provides advantages over traditional heat sink designs. For example, the heat sink 500 requires less material to construct, reducing overall weight and cost. The heat sink 500 also provides a wire way for the necessary power and signal cabling. This configuration eliminates the need for a separate wire way along the length of the assembly, which also reduces material and fabrication costs. In this embodiment, the cable 602 comprises a six-wire system that is used to power and control the light emitters. The cable can comprise several types of connection adapters. This embodiment comprises cylindrical cable connectors 604 for easy connection to another adjacent assembly in an end-to-end serial (i.e., daisy chain) configuration, as discussed in more detail herein. Many different cabling and connection schemes are possible.

[0033] The heat sink 500 can be constructed using many different thermally conductive materials. For example, the heat sink 500 may comprise an aluminum body 504. Similarly as the reflector 102, the heat sink 500 can be extruded for efficient, cost-effective production and convenient scalability.

[0034] The heat sink mount surface 506 provides a substantially flat area on which one or more light sources can be mounted. In some embodiments, the light sources will be pre-mounted on light strips. FIGs. 7a-c show a top plan view of portions of several light strips 700, 720, 740 that may be used to mount multiple LEDs to the mount surface 506. Although LEDs are used as the light sources in various embodiments described herein, it is understood that other light sources, such as laser diodes for example, may be substituted in as the light sources in other embodiments of the present invention.

[0035] Many industrial, commercial, and residential applications call for white light sources. The light assem-
bly 100 may comprise one or more emitters producing the same color of light or different colors of light. In one embodiment, a multicolor source is used to produce white light. Several colored light combinations will yield white light. For example, it is known in the art to combine light from a blue LED with wavelength-converted yellow (blue-shifted-yellow or "BSY") light to yield white light with correlated color temperature (CCT) in the range between 5000K to 7000K (often designated as "cool white"). Both blue and BSY light can be generated with a blue emitter by surrounding the emitter with phosphors that are optically responsive to the blue light. When excited, the phosphors emit yellow light which then combines with the blue light to make white. In this scheme, because the blue light is emitted in a narrow spectral range it is called saturated light. The BSY light is emitted in a much broader spectral range and, thus, is called unsaturated light.

Another example of generating white light with a multicolor source is combining the light from green and red LEDs. RGB schemes may also be used to generate various colors of light. In some applications, an amber emitter is added for an RGBA combination. The previous combinations are exemplary; it is understood that many different color combinations may be used in embodiments of the present invention. Several of these possible color combinations are discussed in detail in U.S. Pat. No. 7,213,940 to Van de Ven et al.

The lighting strips 700, 720, 740 each represent possible LED combinations that result in an output spectrum that can be mixed to generate white light. Each lighting strip can include the electronics and interconnections necessary to power the LEDs. In some embodiments, the lighting strip comprises a printed circuit board with the LEDs mounted and interconnected thereon. The lighting strip 700 includes clusters 702 of discrete LEDs, with each LED within the cluster 702 spaced a distance from the next LED, and each cluster 702 spaced a distance from the next cluster 702. If the LEDs within a cluster are spaced too great a distance from one another, the colors of the individual sources may become visible, causing unwanted color-striping. In some embodiments, an acceptable range of distances for separating consecutive LEDs within a cluster is not more than approximately 8 mm.

The scheme shown in FIG. 7a uses a series of clusters 702 having two blue-shifted-yellow LEDs ("BSY") and a single red LED ("R"). Once properly mixed the resultant output light will have a "warm white" appearance.

The lighting strip 720 includes clusters 722 of discrete LEDs. The scheme shown in FIG. 7b uses a series of clusters 722 having three BSY LEDs and a single red LED. This scheme will also yield a warm white output when sufficiently mixed.

The lighting strip 740 includes clusters 742 of discrete LEDs. The scheme shown in FIG. 7c uses a series of clusters 742 having two BSY LEDs and two red LEDs. This scheme will also yield a warm white output when sufficiently mixed.

The lighting schemes shown in FIGs. 7a-c are meant to be exemplary. Thus, it is understood that many different LED combinations can be used in concert with known conversion techniques to generate a desired output light color.

FIG. 8 is a perspective view of the first end cap 110 of the lighting assembly 100. The end cap 110 is shown with the side cover 306 removed to expose electronics 802 which are mounted on a board 804. The electronics 802 are used to regulate the power to the light emitters and to control the brightness and color of the output light. The electronics 802 can also perform many other functions. The removable side cover 306 (not shown) provides access to the electronics 802, allowing for full testing during and after assembly. Such testing may be easily implemented using Pogo pins, for example. Once testing is finished the side cover 306 can be replaced to protect the electronics 802. The holes 304 on top of the end cap 110 provide additional top-side access to the electronics for a connection to an external junction box, for example. The board 804 is held place within the end cap 110 using tabs 806, although other means such as screws or adhesive may also be used. Because the first end cap 110 houses the electronics necessary to power/control the light emitters, the second end cap 112 (not shown in FIG. 8) may not contain any electronic components, allowing for a thinner profile. However, in some embodiments the second end cap 112 may contain additional electronics, batteries, or other components. The end cap 110 also includes space for the cable connectors 604, allowing for the lighting assembly 100 to be easily connected to another similar assembly as shown herein with reference to FIG. 9.

FIG. 9 shows a perspective view of a modular lighting assembly 900 according to an embodiment of the present invention. Individual light assemblies (such as assembly 100) can be connected in an end-to-end serial (i.e., daisy chain) configuration. Each assembly 100 includes its own electronics 802 such that the individual assemblies 100 may be easily removed or added to the modular assembly 900 as needed. The assemblies 100 include connectors, such as cable connector 604 that allow for the serial connection. The connections between the assemblies 100 are made within the respective end caps 110 to protect the wired connections from outside elements. Respective first and second end caps can comprise snap-fit structures such that adjacent assemblies 100 may be easily connected, although other means may be used to connect adjacent assemblies. In one embodiment, the second end cap comprises snap-fit structures on two opposing surfaces to facilitate connection of adjacent assemblies 100. In another embodiment, both the first and second end caps 110, 112 comprise snap-fit structures on two sides.

The modular assembly 900 comprises two individual assemblies 100 as shown. In this particular embodiment, each assembly 100 is approximately 2.4 m (8
ft) long. However, because the reflector 102 and heat sink 104 components can be fabricated by extrusion, the assemblies 100 can easily be scaled to a desired length. For example, other modular assemblies could comprise individual units having lengths of 0.6 m (2 ft), 1.2 m (4 ft), 1.8 m (6 ft), etc. Additionally, individual units of different lengths can be combined to construct a modular assembly having a particular size. For example a 0.6 m (2 ft) unit can be connected to an 2.4 m (8 ft) unit to construct a 3 m (10 ft) modular assembly. This is advantageous when designing modular assemblies for rooms having particular dimensions. Thus, it is understood that the assemblies can have many different lengths. More than two of the assemblies can be connected to provide a longer series.

FIG. 10a is a cross-sectional view of another reflector that can be used in embodiments of the lighting assembly 100. In this particular embodiment, the reflector 150 comprises two different materials having different optical and structural properties and different relative costs. Similarly as the reflector 102, the reflector 150 comprises a surface 152 and a back surface 154. In one embodiment, the reflector 150 comprises a first light-transmissive base material 156 (e.g., a polycarbonate) which provides the basic structure of the device. At least a portion of the surface 152 comprises a second highly reflective material 158. The two materials 156, 158 can be coextruded for more convenient and cost-efficient fabrication of the reflector 150. For example, a cheaper bulk material may be used as the base material 152, requiring a smaller amount of the more expensive reflective material 154 to manufacture the reflector 150.

The base material 156 provides structural support to the reflector 150 and allows for transmission through areas of the surface 152 where the reflective material 158 is very thin or non-existent. For example, the reflector 150 comprises transmissive windows 160 where little to no reflective material is disposed. FIG. 10b is a close-up view of a portion of the reflector 150 showing one such window. These windows 160 allow light to pass through them, providing uplight (i.e., light emitted from the back surface 154 of the reflector 150). The amount of uplight generated by the reflector 150 can be varied by regulating the thickness of reflective material 158 and/or the size and frequency of the windows 160 across the surface 152. Desired transmissive and reflective effects may be achieved using a non-uniform distribution of the reflective material 158 across the surface 152.

It is understood that embodiments presented herein are meant to be exemplary. Embodiments of the present invention can comprise any combination of compatible features shown in the various figures, and these embodiments should not be limited to those expressly illustrated and discussed.

Although the present invention has been described in detail with reference to certain preferred configurations thereof, other versions are possible. Therefore, the scope of the invention should not be limited to the versions described above.

### Claims

1. A lighting assembly (100), comprising:

   - an elongated heat sink (104; 500) comprising a mount surface on which light emitters can be mounted, said heat sink surrounding a conduit (502) running longitudinally through the interior of said heat sink;
   - a reflector (102; 150) proximate to said heat sink, said reflector comprising a reflective surface (106; 506) facing said heat sink and a back surface (108); and
   - a first end cap (110), said heat sink and said reflector mounted to said first end cap, wherein said first end cap maintains a distance between said reflector and said heat sink.

2. The lighting assembly of claim 1, said reflector further comprising a back surface (108) comprising first and second rails (204) running longitudinally along said back surface, said first and second rails providing mechanical support for said reflector.

3. The lighting assembly of claim 2, said first and second rails comprising an inner flange (208) along an inside surface of said first and second rails.

4. The lighting assembly of claim 3, said inner flange shaped to cooperate with a U-shaped mount bracket (206) that can be mounted to a ceiling.

5. The lighting assembly of claim 2, 3 or 4, said first and second rails comprising an outer flange (210) along an outside surface of said first and second rails.

6. The lighting assembly of claim 5, said outer flange shaped to cooperate with mount tongs (308) that extend down from a ceiling.

7. The lighting assembly of any preceding claim, wherein said first end cap houses electronics (802) for powering light emitters (510).

8. The lighting assembly of claim 7, wherein said electronics are accessible for testing when said end cap is mounted to said reflector and said heat sink.

9. The lighting assembly of any preceding claim, further comprising a second end cap (112), said first and second end caps comprising snap-fit structures (302) such that said heat sink and said reflector are mountable between said end caps.
10. The lighting assembly of claim 9, wherein said second end cap further comprises mount structures on both sides such that said second end cap may be connected to an additional end cap or an additional reflector on either side.

11. The lighting assembly of any preceding claim, wherein said reflector comprises an extruded material having high optical reflectivity.

12. The lighting assembly of any preceding claim, wherein said heat sink comprises an extruded material having high thermal conductivity.

13. The lighting assembly of any preceding claim, wherein said reflector comprises a base material and a reflector material.

14. The lighting assembly of claim 13, wherein said reflective material is distributed across said surface such that said reflector comprises transmissive windows (160) that allow light to pass through said reflector and out said back surface to provide uplight.

15. The lighting assembly of claim 13 or 14, wherein said reflective material is distributed non-uniformly across said surface.

Patentansprüche

1. Beleuchtungsanordnung (100), umfassend:
   - einen gestreckten Kühlkörper (104; 500), der eine Montagefläche umfasst, an welcher Lichtemitter montiert werden können, wobei der Kühlkörper eine Leitung (502) umfasst, die longitudinal durch das Innere des Kühlkörpers verläuft;
   - einen Reflektor (102; 150) in der Nähe des Kühlkörpers, wobei der Reflektor eine reflektive Fläche (106; 506), die dem Kühlkörper zugewandt ist, und eine hintere Fläche (108) umfasst; und
   - eine erste Endkappe (110), wobei der Kühlkörper und der Reflektor an der ersten Endkappe montiert sind, wobei die erste Endkappe einen Abstand zwischen dem Reflektor und dem Kühlkörper aufrechterhält.

2. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 1, wobei der Reflektor ferner eine hintere Fläche (108) umfasst, die erste und zweite Schienen (204) umfasst, die longitudinal entlang der hinteren Fläche verlaufen, wobei die ersten und zweiten Schienen mechanische Unterstützung für den Reflektor bereitstellen.

3. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 2, wobei die ersten und zweiten Schienen einen inneren Flansch (208) entlang einer inneren Fläche der ersten und zweiten Schienen umfassen.

4. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 3, wobei der innere Flansch so geformt ist, dass er mit einer U-förmigen Montageklammer (206) zusammenwirkt, die an einer Decke montiert werden kann.

5. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 2, 3 oder 4, wobei die ersten und zweiten Schienen einen äußeren Flansch (210) entlang einer äußeren Fläche der ersten und zweiten Schienen umfassen.

6. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 5, wobei der äußere Flansch so geformt ist, dass er mit Montagezangen (308) zusammenwirkt, die von einer Decke abwärts verlaufen.

7. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach einem vorhergehenden Anspruch, wobei die erste Endkappe Elektronik (802) zum Versorgen von Lichtemittern (510) mit Energie aufnimmt.

8. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 7, wobei die Elektronik zum Testen zugänglich ist, wenn die Endkappe an dem Reflektor und dem Kühlkörper montiert ist.

9. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach einem vorhergehenden Anspruch, ferner umfassend eine zweite Endkappe (112), wobei die ersten und zweiten Endkappen Schnappverbundungsstrukturen (302) umfassen, so dass der Kühlkörper und der Reflektor zwischen den Endkappen montierbar sind.

10. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 9, wobei die zweite Endkappe ferner Montagestrukturen auf beiden Seiten umfasst, so dass die zweite Endkappe mit einer zusätzlichen Endkappe oder einem zusätzlichen Reflektor auf jeder Seite verbunden werden kann.


14. Beleuchtungsanordnung nach Anspruch 13, wobei das reflektive Material über die Fläche hinweg verteilt ist, so dass der Reflektor transmissive Fenster
1. Ensemble d'éclairage (100), comprenant :

- un dissipateur thermique allongé (104 ; 500) comprenant une surface de montage sur laquelle des émetteurs de lumière peuvent être montés,
- ledit dissipateur thermique entourant un conduit (502) s’étendant longitudinalement à travers l’intérieur dudit dissipateur thermique ; un réflecteur (102 ; 150) à proximité dudit dissipateur thermique, ledit réflecteur comprenant une surface réfléctrice (106 ; 506) faisant face audit dissipateur thermique et une surface arrière (108) ; et
- un premier capuchon d’extrémité (110), ledit dissipateur thermique et ledit réflecteur étant montés sur ledit premier capuchon d’extrémité, dans lequel ledit premier capuchon d’extrémité maintient une distance entre ledit réflecteur et ledit dissipateur thermique.

2. Ensemble d’éclairage selon la revendication 1, ledit réflecteur comprenant en outre un second capuchon d’extrémité (112), ledit premier et second capuchons d’extrémité comprenant des structures à encliquetage (302) de sorte que ledit dissipateur thermique et ledit réflecteur peuvent être montés entre lesdits capuchons d’extrémité.

3. Ensemble d’éclairage selon l’une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel ledit second capuchon d’extrémité comprend en outre des structures de montage sur les deux côtés de sorte que ledit second capuchon d’extrémité peut être relié à un capuchon d’extrémité supplémentaire ou à un réflecteur supplémentaire sur l’un des côtés.

4. Ensemble d’éclairage selon l’une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel ledit dissipateur thermique comprend un matériau extrudé ayant une réflectivité optique élevée.

5. Ensemble d’éclairage selon l’une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel ledit dissipateur thermique comprend un matériau de base et un matériau réflecteur.

6. Ensemble d’éclairage selon la revendication 13, dans lequel ledit matériau réflecteur est réparti à travers ladite surface de telle sorte que ledit réflecteur comprend des fenêtres transmissives (160) qui permettent à la lumière de passer à travers ledit réflecteur et de sortir de ladite surface arrière pour délivrer une lumière vers le haut.


8. Ensemble d’éclairage selon la revendication 7, dans lequel lesdits composants électroniques sont accessibles pour un test lorsque ledit capuchon d’extrémité est monté sur ledit réflecteur et ledit dissipateur thermique.

9. Ensemble d’éclairage selon l’une quelconque des revendications précédentes, comprenant en outre un second capuchon d’extrémité (112), lesdits premier et second capuchons d’extrémité comprenant des structures à encliquetage (302) de sorte que ledit dissipateur thermique et ledit réflecteur peuvent être montés entre lesdits capuchons d’extrémité.

10. Ensemble d’éclairage selon la revendication 9, dans lequel ledit second capuchon d’extrémité comprend en outre des structures de montage sur les deux côtés de sorte que ledit second capuchon d’extrémité peut être relié à un capuchon d’extrémité supplémentaire ou à un réflecteur supplémentaire sur l’un des côtés.

11. Ensemble d’éclairage selon l’une quelconque des revendications précédentes, comprenant en outre un second capuchon d’extrémité (112), lesdits premier et second capuchons d’extrémité comprenant des structures à encliquetage (302) de sorte que ledit dissipateur thermique et ledit réflecteur peuvent être montés entre lesdits capuchons d’extrémité.

12. Ensemble d’éclairage selon l’une quelconque des revendications précédentes, dans lequel ledit dissipateur thermique comprend un matériau extrudé ayant une conductivité thermique élevée.


14. Ensemble d’éclairage selon la revendication 13, dans lequel ledit matériau réflecteur est réparti à travers ladite surface de telle sorte que ledit réflecteur comprend des fenêtres transmissives (160) qui permettent à la lumière de passer à travers ledit réflecteur et de sortir de ladite surface arrière pour délivrer une lumière vers le haut.

15. Ensemble d’éclairage selon la revendication 13 ou 14, dans lequel ledit matériau réflecteur est réparti de façon non-uniforme à travers ladite surface.
REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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