
FAQ No: **FAQ-ABB-017**

Title: **Withdrawal of Sodium Na10 Spectral Bulb (code 59-31)**

Background

Bellingham + Stanley manufacture two types of Sodium Lamp Outfits to provide monochromatic light for use with high accuracy Abbe refractometers type 60/ED and 60/LR.

- Sodium Lamp Outfit (codes 59-01/x)
- Spectral Lamp Outfit (Code 59-20/x)

For most applications a Sodium Lamp Outfit is used, as measurement is only required at one wavelength 589.3nm. However, for dispersion measurement or where a reading is required at a frequency other than sodium, a Spectral Lamp Outfit is used with the optional spectral bulbs.

At July 30, 2009, the aforementioned optional spectral bulbs include Mercury, Cadmium, Helium and Sodium and so a single Lamp Outfit can be used to satisfy all frequencies of measurement including Sodium (589nm).

Withdrawal of Sodium Na10 spectral bulb code 59-31

As of August 1, 2009, Sodium Na10 spectral bulbs (code 59-31) will no longer be available from Bellingham + Stanley.

The reasons for the withdrawal are four-fold:

1. Due to a fall in global demand from ALL users, the manufacturer of the bulb will only produce one small batch per year regardless of global requirement. These will be sold on a first-come-first-served basis and as such, it will force B+S to hold *difficult to predict* stocks to satisfy demand. This in turn will cause excessive and unmanageable stock levels at B+S in order to ensure the bulbs are available to customers in a reasonable period (the alternative is a delivery period between stock or 12-months against order!)
2. The cost price of the bulb will increase significantly following the next production run from approx. £500 to £700+
3. A viable alternative is already available from B+S
4. The viable alternative offers customers significantly lower running costs and a more streamlined approach to wavelength change.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this FAQ. However, Bellingham + Stanley Ltd. can assume no responsibility for errors contained in the FAQ their consequences.

Alternative to Spectral Lamp Outfit used at sodium wavelength as part of a multiple wavelength analysis of refractive index.

Customers setting up a completely new multiple wavelength installation will need to purchase a standard Sodium Lamp Outfit as well as a Spectral Lamp Outfit and associated bulbs in order to facilitate measurement at 589nm as part of a multiple wavelength experiment. Contact our sales dept to discuss special offers on package prices when purchasing two Lamp Outfits together.

Existing users of sodium spectral bulbs should plan to purchase a Sodium Lamp Outfit in place of a sodium spectral bulb. Due to the increased cost of initial set-up of the alternative, users are encouraged to obtain a quotation as soon as possible in order to take advantage of a special discount being offered to users of the now deleted item (offer ends 30/9/2009).

Advantages when using a separate 'sodium lamp outfit' for 589nm as part of a multiple wavelength analysis of refractive Index.

Although the initial expense of purchasing a complete Sodium Lamp Outfit may appear costly, this is soon negated by a number of advantages in terms of capital and convenience!

1. For applications where the bulk of measurements are at sodium wavelength, expensive spectral lamps can be removed from the work place to a safe storage area.
2. For applications where a number of readings of a single sample are taken at different wavelengths, use of two Lamp Outfits improves lamp changeover time and reduces the risk of damage to expensive spectral bulbs as well as negating risk of personal injury when handling hot glass bulbs.
3. Running costs are significantly reduced due to the 3000-hour bulb life of the sodium opposed to the 200-hour equivalent life for the spectral bulb.
4. Replacement sodium bulb costs a tenth of the price than the sodium spectral bulb (c. £60 vs. £700+).
5. Labour and administration costs are significantly reduced due to the long life sodium bulb.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON OTHER SPECTRAL LAMPS

Mercury, Cadmium and Helium bulbs currently remain unaffected in terms of product deletion. Due to an increased cost price and the manufacturers newly implemented *annual production schedule*, it is advised to check price and availability before placing an order or quoting customers for nay spectral bulbs.

Bellingham + Stanley holds stock levels of these lesser used bulbs equivalent to previous sales volumes and although we hope to provide the items within our standard 4-week delivery time, in the event of unprecedented sales, delivery for these items may extend up to 12-months maximum.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the contents of this FAQ. However, Bellingham + Stanley Ltd. can assume no responsibility for errors contained in the FAQ their consequences.