

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Panasonic Lighting Americas Hosts Global Lighting Business Division**

*North American tour includes formal opening of new headquarters, plant visits and LIGHTFAIR® attendance*

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** (May 22, 2017) – Panasonic Lighting Americas, Inc., parent company of lighting manufacturers Universal Lighting Technologies and Douglas Lighting Controls, recently completed a five-day tour of North American operations and the 2017 LIGHTFAIR® International trade show, led by Mr. Masaharu Michiura, Director, Lighting Business Division, Eco Solutions Company, Panasonic Corporation.

Visiting from Panasonic Lighting headquarters in Osaka, Japan, Mr. Michiura was joined by leaders Masahiro Ito, General Manager, and Takeshi ‘Ricky’ Goriki, Manager, both of the Strategic Planning Group, Lighting Business Division; Katsufumi ‘Victor’ Miyamoto, CEO of Panasonic Lighting Americas; and Mark Verheyen, President & CEO of Universal Lighting Technologies. On May 5, 2017, Mr. Michiura addressed distinguished guests at a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the opening of Douglas Lighting Controls’ new Centre of Excellence in Vancouver, and met key partners in the local market.

The 9,500 square foot state-of-the-art facility exclusively features Douglas lighting control systems throughout, as well as a number of other advanced technologies and current best design practices. The space is well-suited to accommodate Douglas’ current needs and allow for anticipated future growth. Equally important, the building will enable the company to collect relevant data about how a typical modern office space is occupied and used.

Following the event, Panasonic leaders toured Universal Lighting Technologies’ North American manufacturing facilities located in Matamoros, Mexico. This facility has enabled Universal to remain at the cutting edge of high efficiency lighting and push the industry toward increasingly higher standards of energy efficiency for LED systems, light ballasts and control systems while providing industry-leading delivery service.

“It is good to see all the new Panasonic Surface Mount Technology (SMT) equipment installed at the Matamoros factory,” said Mr. Michiura. “The facility looks and operates similarly to the Panasonic Niigata, Japan factory, with a high level of automation and high quality levels. The lean manufacturing methods utilized at the factory continue to drive increases in efficiency, on time delivery and reduced costs.”

Between May 9-11, 2017, Panasonic leaders attended the LIGHTFAIR® International trade show in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where the company revealed a number of new products and innovations including controllable lighting and LED technologies and fixture packages.

Specifically, Panasonic showcased a series of components and fixture level lighting controls including EVERLINE® ID (Intelligent Device) Series™ drivers, as well as **Bluetooth®** and ZigBee® antennas, fixture mount sensors, power packs, ceiling mount sensors, switch relays, a Bluetooth Dialog® Gateway and a Bluetooth enabled iOS device app.

“Even before the current LED revolution, Panasonic made large-scale investments in manufacturing technology, test equipment and capabilities that have set us ahead of the entire industry,” said Verheyen. “Under the leadership of Panasonic and Mr. Michiura, we have been able to emphasize

superior quality, expand our product line, and implement lean manufacturing and world-class research and development to the great benefit of our customers, and the lighting industry as a whole.”

**About Panasonic Lighting Americas, Inc.**

Panasonic Lighting Americas, Inc., a subsidiary of the Panasonic Group, operates Universal Lighting Technologies, Inc. and Douglas Lighting Controls, two market leaders in the industry. Universal Lighting Technologies, based in Nashville, Tennessee, engineers LED solutions for commercial lighting applications as well as LED, linear fluorescent, compact fluorescent, HID, and eHID components. Douglas Lighting Controls, based in Vancouver, British Columbia, develops innovative controls systems and works to engineer energy-efficient, easy-to-install digital lighting-control solutions for commercial buildings, campuses and sports complexes throughout North America. Together, Douglas and Universal, provide customers with the most advanced lighting controls and LED components available today. To learn more visit <http://www.unvlt.com/> or <http://www.douglaslightingcontrols.com/>.

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