

Astera Launches LunaBulb

Posted on June 5, 2024



Astera launches a brand-new LED fixture – the LunaBulb.

The new LunaBulb will be debuted – alongside a display of Astera’s full lighting ecosystem – at Cine Gear LA Expo 2024.

LunaBulb is ideal for cinematographers – for on-camera practicals or to highlight faces with perfect skin tones – and is also handy for events, offering designers, organizers, and décor specialists a myriad of creative possibilities.

The IP44 rated LunaBulb looks like and can emulate the effect of a traditional incandescent light bulb but works like a professional luminaire. The IP44 rating means LunaBulbs can be used outside, even in wet conditions, if the socket they are screwed into is also IP44 rated, making them perfect for statement lighting – such as festoons – or anywhere where lighting might be used to shape moods and atmosphere.



Drawing just 3.5 watts, the LED-based LunaBulb is available with an E26, E27 and B22 fitting and, like a conventional bulb, screws directly into an AC-wired bulb socket.

LunaBulb is remote controlled wirelessly via the onboard CRMX or Bluetooth receivers using the same tech as any other Astera wireless DMX fixture running via a remote controller or through a lighting console.

Unlike a conventional bulb, users have unrivalled creative control with the ability to adjust both white levels between 1,750K – 20,000K, and color (RGB, Mint and Amber, with HIS, XY and Filter Gel color selection options), providing beautiful, flicker-free lighting in a variety of settings.

This control is built upon the underlying Titan LED engine, which underpins the full Astera ecosystem, which also this makes LunaBulb ideal for wider applications – from enhancing

intimate stage performances to theatrical scenes to being integrated with other lighting for spectacular large-scale events.

It is super lightweight!



Each LunaBulb weighs just 0.81 grams, less than a tenth of a kilogram, while the CRI of over 96 is simply great for natural skin detailing.

Importantly, the bulb itself can be converted quickly between a classic bulb shape - ideal for practical lighting - and a slimline bulb, which allows insertion into multiple different lamps and spaces.

The conversion is simple, involving attaching or detaching the 'classic' dome over the slimline bulb using a spring-loaded clip.

Configuration is achieved using the Astera LunaBulb PrepCase.

Holding up to eight LunaBulbs, the PrepCase provides a quick and efficient way to configure the bulbs - either individually or as a group - according to the preferred control option of the user. The PrepCase is also available as a PrepInlay, enabling users the flexibility to build the inlay (without its surrounding protective box) into their own setup, be that a flight case or other custom unit.



Because the PrepCase and PrepInlay are battery-powered, with up to an hour's runtime or indefinitely using a Titan Tube charger, LunaBulbs can be pre-configured before arriving on-site for more efficient setup and deployment. Each bulb maintains its own CRMX chip and the PrepCase and PrepInlay can be used to auto-assign DMX addresses for individual control or to pre-configure dimming and color, enabling users to integrate the bulbs into their existing workflows.

Alternatively, the box can be used to quickly place the bulbs in blue mode, with control facilitated through the app, which allows for pre-set groupings and effects to be applied.

Astera will be offering a range of purchase options, including PrepCase and PrepInlay Kits, which

include eight LunaBulbs, as well as the PrepCase and PrepInlay alone, which are sold with a power supply, but require separate purchase of the bulbs. These different options give users the flexibility to scale their LunaBulb setup as required.

Additionally, both the individual bulbs and the PrepCase itself can also be set as a Bluetooth Bridge (BTB) to facilitate control over the rest of the set.



And finally, with a single combo-press on either the Astera White or FX remote, a connection can be established by pointing the remote at any individual light, allowing for at-a-click control.

Combined, these LunaBulb control options assist gaffers, cinematographers, console programmers and lighting technicians to seamlessly integrate LunaBulbs into their wider lighting rigs.

Crucially, the lights are suitable for film and TV productions – though their practical design and exceptional lighting of skin tone make them ideal for realistic lighting environments – and ideal for events of all types.

The name LUNA comes from the desire to emulate classic lighting at night with modern control, efficiency, and color mixing. Some of the best human experiences and memories are linked to fairy lights and parties, amusement parks, arcades and illuminated trails and gardens ... so these bulbs are providing a very personal artificial style of unique 'LUNA' moonlight.



On film and television sets, LunaBulbs can be used for variable lighting anywhere needed with maximum control, and for directors, DoPs and gaffers, LunaBulb further expands the scope and impact of an Astera 'smart ecosystem.'

For shows, sets and events, multiple LunaBulbs can be used as a festoon effect helping to craft special atmospheres and define mood enhancing spaces.

Ben Díaz, Astera's head of product management, commented: "LunaBulb is the culmination of many months of intensive development and represents all that Astera is here for: a focus on combining creative control and flexible application with something exceptionally practical, robust,

intuitive, efficient, and easy-to-use.

“We are so excited to bring LunaBulb to market and can’t wait to see how filmmakers and event designers find innovative ways to apply this unique tool in their projects.”

