

BRANTHAM ELECTRONICS

Colour Control of Shop Interior Lighting by Touching a Window

A major laptop computer manufacturer released laptops in five different coloured cases. These were promoted by a leading department store, by allowing passers by to change the colours of the interior lighting by touching the outside of the shop window.

The department store has a large glass frontage, behind which there is an expanse of white wall. The lamps were positioned to shine on this wall and a large vinyl advertising the laptop computers was fitted to the shop window. Five coloured buttons representing the colours of these laptop computers were placed on the window surface and passers by were encouraged to touch these buttons and watch the shop lighting change colour.

Sensors were installed behind the buttons, on the inside of the window. These sensors detect a hand or finger through the window glass. The sensors were connected to a PC which, in turn, was connected to a DMX interface to control the lamps.

Software was written to detect the exact button which had been touched and then adjust the lamps to match that colour. The software included a mixer so the best match could be made for each laptop colour. A log file was kept to record all the selections so it was possible to ascertain which colours were the most popular.

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