



News Release

For Immediate Release

Background Information Release—The Light Sentry

Naperville, Ill.—April 7, 2015—Sonne Industries introduces the Light Sentry, the first lighting and power control package that utilizes a centralized, wireless system, and nature as a trigger for lighting events. With this system, a combination of user-programmed computer commands and daylight sensors are used to control lighting and other electrically powered devices in-and-around a home, business or municipal environment.

Light Sentry creator Bill Dorn set out to create a whole-house system that was simple to install, competitively priced and easily programmed through a user-friendly computer interface. Frustrated with difficult-to-program light timers and other devices that needed constant resetting, Dorn attests that Light Sentry is the only product that centrally triggers ON, OFF and DIM commands for lighting and other appliances using both time and/or natural light levels. This not only offers convenience, but also can provide a significant energy cost savings.

Light Sentry system is comprised of the **Light Sentry Hub, Natural Light Sensor, light switches and hard-wired outlets, and indoor and outdoor portable outlets**. These units, along with the Light Sentry User Interface that is downloaded to a home or facility's PC or Mac, work in tandem to allow, reduce or restrict power to lamps, lighting fixtures or electrical outlets.

- The **Light Sentry Hub** is the "heart" of the Light Sentry system. Using information obtained from the **Light Sensor** as well as user-programmed commands, it controls the **outlets and light switches** by sending instructions to power up, dim and power down an electrically powered device.
- The **Natural Light Sensor** houses a photocell that monitors the level of natural sunlight. Placed near a window or on the building's exterior, this device then communicates these light levels to the Light Sentry Hub. This information is used to determine whether a light should be on (and how bright) or off.
- **Switches and Outlets (we call them Power Gates)** receive commands from the Light Sentry Hub. Standard light switches can be replaced with **Light Switches** while outlets can with replaced by **Wired or Portable Power Gates**.

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Light Sentry enables users to plan a lighting and electricity-use scheme customized for that specific home's or facility's lighting needs. The Light Sentry system also is as easy as replacing a standard switch or outlet. Portable Power Gates are simply plugged into standard outlets while the Wired Power Gate and Light Switch installation is as easy as installing a standard switch or outlet. The Light Sentry Hub will be plugged into any live outlet in the building and Natural Light Sensor can be mounted with the supplied bracket to a wall or (with a Garden Staff), anywhere in the yard.

Once a user registers the Light Sentry system, a pass code provides access to download the Light Sentry Scheduling Program. By connecting the Light Sentry Hub to a PC or Mac via a micro-USB cord, this program allows users to program the events (ON, OFF, DIM) of the Power Gates. Once these commands are set, the program retains these settings indefinitely--eliminating the need to re-set or re-program in the event of a power outage or other event. Additionally, Light Sentry's wireless components employ a Bluetooth Low Energy proprietary communications protocol for greater reliability and increased communication distances.

Program outdoor lighting to turn on as dusk sets and turns off as the sun rises. Program interior lighting that turns off and on intermittently for security. Deny power to the garage door opener to prevent break-ins when occupants are asleep or away on vacation. The Light Sentry system can also reduce the amount of power to lighting, thereby both saving electricity and extending the life light bulbs. For example, at midnight, dim power to landscape lighting to 50%, then to 25% at 3:00 a.m. Some audio, visual and cooking appliances, such as microwaves, computers and televisions, draw electricity even when they're not performing their intended tasks. Light Sentry allows users to allow, reduce or deny power to these appliances, as well. For instance, power can be denied to a computer or television during a prescribed study time.

In an office environment, exterior and interior lighting can be programmed for safety, security and energy savings during non-working hours. Light Sentry can also deny power to conference room audio-visual equipment, computers and office lighting during non-working hours. Public facilities can also benefit from the Light Sentry's easy programmability and energy savings. Keep recreational areas lit to various levels during the night to provide an illuminated yet energy-saving environment.

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Sonne Industries was founded in 2007, with the development and patenting of Light Sentry following soon after. Currently led by Bill and Hal Gorenz (engineering), Sonne Industries continues to be the foundation for the cutting-edge, life-changing technology advancements that are the cornerstones of the Light Sentry family of products.

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Light Sentry – Fact Sheet

Legal Name: Sonne Industries, LLC; Light Sentry (trademark)

Founded: 2007

Ownership: Privately owned

Market: Single-family homes, multi-family buildings, commercial properties and municipal buildings

Senior Leadership: Bill Dorn, President and Chief Executive Officer; Hal Gorenz, Engineering

Corporate Headquarters: Naperville, IL

Contact Information:

Telephone: (630) 904-0903

Website: www.thelightsentry.com

Mail address:

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Naperville, IL 60540

Overview:

Sonne Industries introduces a new standard for centralized, wireless smart-lighting technology. Introducing Light Sentry, the first power control package that utilizes a combination of computer programmed commands, and daylight sensors to control not only lamps and lighting fixtures, but any electrically powered device within a home or business. Additionally, Light Sentry provides safety and security by delivering lighting when and where it is needed. It also provides cost savings by reducing the amount of energy used and extending the life of light bulbs.

The system consists of the **Light Sentry Hub**, **Natural Light Sensor**, **light switches** and **hard-wired outlets, and indoor and outdoor portable outlets**. These units, along with the Light Sentry User Interface that is downloaded to a home or facility's PC or Mac, work in tandem to allow, reduce or restrict power to lamps, lighting fixtures or electrical outlets.

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Partners:

Optimal Design – Arlington Heights, Ill. (Engineering Partner)

Richmar Electronics Corporation – Darien, Ill. (Manufacturing Partner)

Eastek International Corporation – Lake Zurich, Ill. (Manufacturing Partner)

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Light Sentry — Executive Biographies

William (Bill) Dorn – President/CEO

Bill Dorn developed the initial idea for the **Light Sentry** based on his family's need for a more convenient and energy-saving alternative to lighting timers.

Using his significant experience in manufacturing, product development, and sales, Mr. Dorn founded Sonne Industries in 2007, enlisting help from the University of Dayton School of Engineering, Design and Manufacturing Clinic. After feasibility studies these students helped developed the **Light Sentry** system that combines daylight sensors, user-programmed preferences and an on-premise hub to control lighting as well as other electronic devices in homes, offices, retail stores, restaurants, commercial and industrial buildings, and government spaces.

"Each position I have held has exposed me to manufacturing planning and execution across a wide spectrum of industries," declares Mr. Dorn. "My drive to be different and more efficient has led me to succeed in each task I have undertaken."

Prior to founding Sonne, Mr. Dorn managed Midwest products and sales for Global Paper Solutions and served as the US liaison for a division of Asia Pulp and Paper (Shanghai, China). Prior to Global Paper Solutions, Mr. Dorn was vice president of sales for the Visual Pak family of companies, focusing on new product development and manufacturing. Mr. Dorn also was the manager of business development and national sales manager for American Slide Chart, national account manager for the custom packing division at Caraustar, led the Nestle USA sales team, and managed the digital printing division of Field Container Company. Mr. Dorn holds a B.S. degree from Northern Illinois University at DeKalb.

Hal Gorenz – Engineering

Hal Gorenz is an electro-mechanical engineer with more than 25 years of experience in new product design and development. He also created handheld, portable and rack-mounted communication devices for Motorola, including smart phones and accessories, electronic tablets, and industrial cable internet and consumer modems. Mr. Gorenz also created electronic countermeasure devices for Northrop's B2 Bomber and military drones. He has 10 U.S. patents, and holds a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Illinois and an MBA from the University of Notre Dame.