

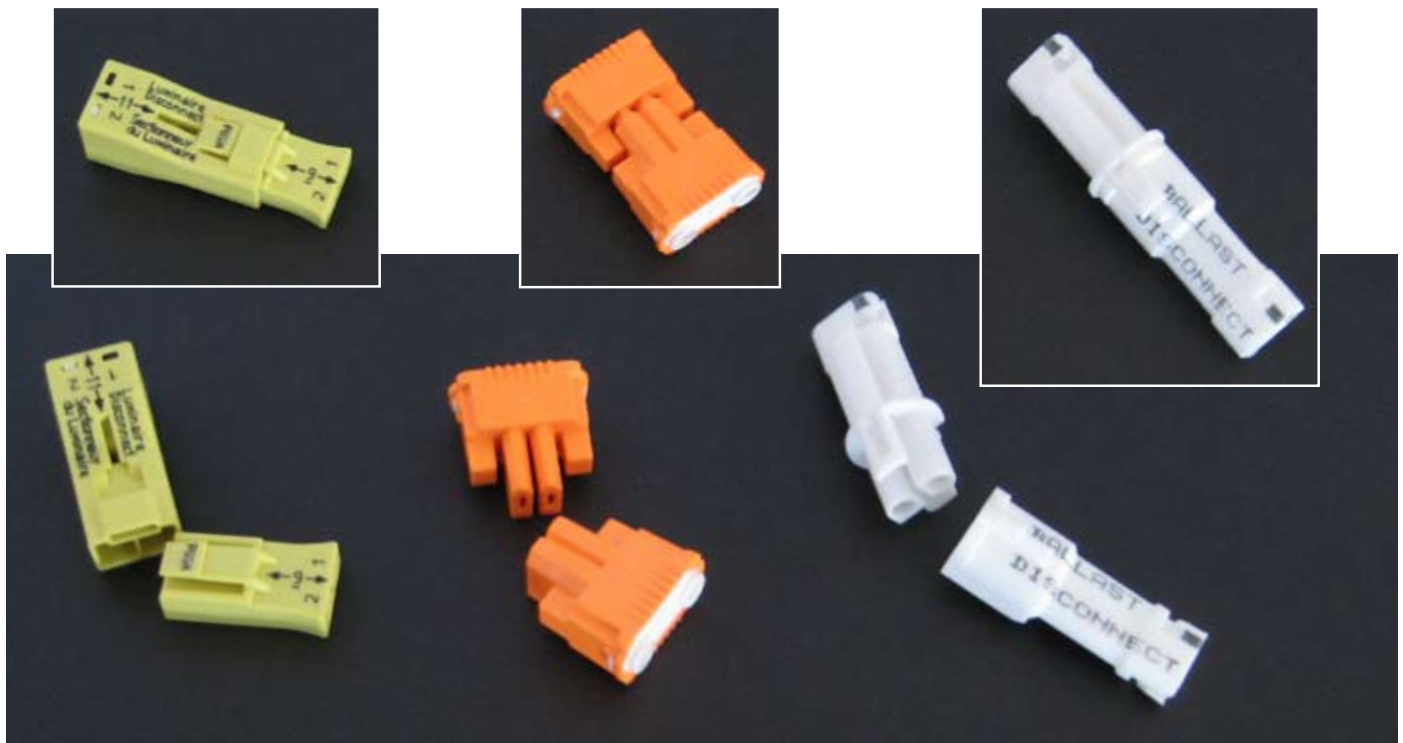
NEW NEC Requirement for Luminaire Disconnects

As of January 1, 2008, the National Electrical Code (NEC) requires that most indoor fluorescent luminaires have a means for disconnecting the electrical supply conductors to the ballast. For full details of this new requirement, please refer to **NEC Section 410.73 (G)**. Similar requirements were enacted in Canada last year.

The NEC does not specify how this disconnect should be accomplished, only that it must simultaneously disconnect all supply conductors (including the grounded conductor) to the ballast from the source of supply. The disconnect device can be located either inside or outside the fixture. As an NEC requirement, the burden for compliance is on the electrical contractor. Because the new NEC requirement is not part of the UL Standards for Safety for luminaires, ballast and luminaire manufacturers are not required to modify their designs to accommodate the new NEC requirement.

Litecontrol has identified several acceptable ballast disconnect devices now available from our vendors. Described simply, these devices consist of a polarized male-female plug set that is wired between the ballast and the branch circuit conductors supplying the fixture. Some examples of these devices are shown below.

In consideration of the additional burden placed on the electrical contractor by the new NEC requirement, Litecontrol is now installing ballast disconnect devices at our factory for all applicable fixtures that are shipped after January 1, 2008.



Disconnects shown actual size