

## Maintenance Matters

There would be few who would disagree that service and maintenance of items such as printers and motor vehicles are essential to their reliability and smooth running. The same can be said for LED displays with regular inspections and preventative maintenance improving the longevity, of what in many cases, is a significant investment.

“LED technology can be quite complex,” says Tony Montuoro, LED-Signs’ National Service Manager, “and a service and maintenance regime will help prevent downtime that can occur as a result of weather damage, power surges or other unforeseen circumstances.”

While it is true that the life span of LEDs can be as long as 100,000\* hours, this level of longevity will not be achieved unless the sign is in peak running order. For example, a rise in the ambient temperature of an LED display will affect the junction temperature of the LED chips (internal temperature of the LED). A rise of just 10% in the junction temperature can mean that the longevity of a display is reduced by as much as 20,000 hours.

Temperature control and protection from other environment elements are essential to the smooth running of an LED display. “LED-Signs advises its clients to take advantage our service and maintenance package which includes an



annual inspection that not only identifies any environmental issues, but addresses the mechanical and technical operation of the sign, as well as power supply and cleaning,” says Tony.

The supply of clean power, that is the mains input supply, is also essential to the reliability of an LED sign. Annual servicing of circuit breakers, the lightning arrestor, earth leakage and cabling are all recommended. In fact, once a sign is over three years old a full power supply replacement should be considered.

The Sydney Kings recognise the importance of always having their

scoreboard in peak working order. During the off season everything from the mechanics of moving the enormous, cubed 3.7m by 3.3m scoreboard into position, to cabling and the LEDs are tested, checked and repaired or replaced as necessary.

Maintenance really does matter,” says Tony. “Without it, sign owners are risking a loss of brightness, colour inconsistencies, and even premature failure of their signage.”

\* number of hours it take for an LED to reduce in brightness by 50%.

## Industry Trends

### Large Video Walls

Increasingly, pubs, clubs and other entertainment venues are recognising the advantages of installing large video walls to entertain their patrons.

Multi panel LCD video walls are an ideal solution as they have superior picture quality to projection screens and can

be configured to meet almost any display size.

A quality LCD video wall solution should be commercial grade, have an ultra thin bezel resulting in almost seamless viewing and incorporate the latest technology that allows the user to schedule advertising and switch to picture in picture modes for live TV.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The closing date for the ASGA sign excellence awards is Friday 13 July 2012. If you would like to place an entry in the new DIGITAL MEDIA category you can download the entry form from the [ASGA website](#) or contact [LED-Signs](#).

The digital media category recognises the skills required of sign makers to successfully incorporate digital componentry into a total signage solution.



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