

ORIGINAL BTC

BRITISH LIGHTING MANUFACTURERS

LONDON - NEW YORK - PARIS

30
Years
Est. 1990

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FP550N/7 - Fin Pendant Grouping of 7

*Specialists in the design and
manufacture of unique, timeless lighting.
Handmade in England.*

Established in 1990 by Peter Bowles, Original BTC began life as an Oxford based home lighting brand and has secured two further lighting brands; heritage marine lighting manufacturer Davey Lighting and LED lighting manufacturer Beadlight, under its umbrella. Exports account for 50% of the production, supplying both the retail and contract markets around the world with an emphasis on the hotel, restaurant and aeronautical industries. With a family history steeped in retail, manufacturing and design, Peter designs the company's products in conjunction with his son Charlie who became Director in 2012.

Original BTC, Davey Lighting & Beadlight each offer a diverse and unique range of lighting designs. All brands draw inspiration from Britain's rich post industrialisation history as well as incorporating modern tastes and trends with our very latest innovative designs.

Quality, detail and an interesting mix of materials are integral to each brand's designs. These are created by using the best quality raw materials to their upmost capability, paying great attention to the concept and form. From using centuries old techniques to the very latest technology, all lights are handmade and manufactured in the UK. Six production facilities include a metalworks, glassworks, and a Stoke-on-Trent bone china factory rescued from closure in 2002. It is here where the lighting designs, whether crafted from versatile bone china, the finest aluminium, copper, brass and iron, come to life. The detailing of cotton braided cables, satin chromed bases & contrasting coloured shades make Original BTC, Davey Lighting and Beadlight's products uniquely distinctive and popular in Europe and beyond.

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My goal was to design and produce lights that you feel instantly at home with, and that will fit easily and comfortably for many years to come.

One of the first designers to capture the appeal of industrial styling, Original BTC founder Peter Bowles' relaxed, familiar lighting is driven by a family heritage of design steeped in manufacturing and business. A carpenter by trade, Peter's grandfather was chairman of Minty Furniture of Oxford, later bought out by Parker Knoll. After learning the ropes at Minty, Peter's father launched iconic 1960s lighting retailer Cosmo Designs, employing 13-year-old Peter on his stand at the Harrogate Lighting Fair.

Childhood visits to his father's manufacturing facilities opened Peter's eyes to the clean lines of traditional factory fittings and the versatility of mid-century style, while a stint working the machines at a French cutlery manufacturer ignited his passion in the "crash, bang, wallop of production." Returning to England, Peter opened a Sheffield factory producing a million pieces of own-designed cutlery a year. Challenged by the design limitations of cutlery, in 1990 Peter went back to his roots with an Oxford-based lighting factory.

While inspiration is drawn from all quarters - an antique lamp used to keep chicks warm or the searchlight on the back of a toy lorry - authenticity and attention to detail remain at the heart of the collection. Peter has a passion for using raw materials to their best capabilities and creates a harmony of form and material. When a visit to the Stoke-on-Trent shade manufacturer revealed the factory was under threat of closure, Peter promptly took on the business, including all staff. Later, unsatisfied with the finish of commonly used plastic lighting flex, he replaced it with woven cotton braid snipped off the family iron, soon becoming one of Original BTC's best-loved design features. A unique figure in British manufacturing, Peter's repertoire includes launching new brands, rescuing struggling British heritage brands and factories as well as designing the group's products, all in conjunction with son Charlie who became Director in 2012.

In 2002, Peter Bowles saved a Stoke-on-Trent tableware manufacturer from closure, creating a new revenue stream for the factory as a producer of bone china light fittings. In 2010, the father-and-son team purchased Davey Lighting, a marine lighting manufacturer founded in East India Docks in the 1880s, preventing its sale to a Belgian company planning to outsource production to the Far East. Determined to produce all components for their two lighting brands on British soil, Peter and Charlie rescued a metalwork factory in Birmingham and then secured the future of English Antique Glass, the country's only remaining manufacturer of traditional flat glass, used in stained glass windows at York Cathedral and Buckingham Palace.

In early 2013, Oxford-based LED lighting manufacturer Beadlight joined their portfolio. Founded in the 1980s, Beadlight designed, engineered and manufactured the first ever low-heat, low-power, LED reading light for commercial aircraft. Now with over 1,500 products in the range, showrooms in London, Paris, New York and sales to over 85 countries, Original BTC is always evolving and improving in every aspect of the business.



Charlie & Peter Bowles at their Bone China Factory

In the UK, we are fortunate to own six specialist production facilities dedicated to constructing our designs; these include a ceramics factory, glass factory and metal works.

CERAMICS

The first designer to use bone china for lighting, Peter Bowles' commitment to local manufacturing led him to Stoke-on-Trent, the heart of the British ceramics industry.

In 2002, a visit to the factory producing the bone china shades revealed it was under threat of closure. Peter promptly took the business on, including all its staff. Today, the factory is the company's lifeblood, producing the bone china components synonymous with many of its best-loved designs.





GLASSWORKS

The glass featured in every one of our products has been hand-blown at the Birmingham glassworks. Glass is mouth-blown using highly skilled labour and the time-intensive process resulting in glass of the finest colour, clarity and brilliance. Unlike homogenous mouldmade glass, each piece is unique, with slight variations demonstrating the care and attention with which it is crafted.



METALWORKS

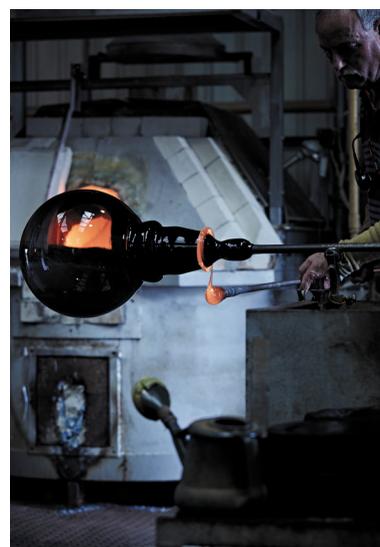
Dedicated to constructing beautifully unprocessed lighting designs on British soil, our Birmingham metalworks hand-forms, presses and stamps aluminium, copper and brass shades and bases from their original sheet metal state. The staff are craftspeople able to solder, weld and form to exacting standards.

Based in the heart of the country's metal-working industry, the highly skilled workforce use centuries old techniques to produce Davey Lighting's truly authentic and classic lighting designs, some of which originate from East India Docks in the 1880s.

The Process | HECTOR COLLECTION



The Process | GLOBE COLLECTION





FP550N - Fin Medium Pendant





Instantly comfortable, unassumingly elegant and accessibly priced, Original BTC designs and manufactures relaxed, familiar lighting for domestic and contract interiors. Quality, mix of materials and detail is key. Metal, glass and bone china shades are paired with polished, satin, chromed or bone china bases, offset by the brand's signature cotton braided flex.

The comprehensive catalogue includes utilitarian, statement and stripped back designs, united by a focus on longevity, craft and a passion for pushing the boundaries of production.



Looking to expand the Group into outdoor lighting, in 2010 Original BTC acquired Davey Lighting, preventing the sale to a Belgian company planning to outsource production to the Far East. With roots dating back to the shipyards of 19th century London, Davey Lighting combines industrial design, traditional craftsmanship and the finest raw materials.

Authentic and unique, IP rated bathroom and outdoor-safe lights are manufactured in England with the same attention to detail required for their original industrial purpose.

Beadlight

British LED lighting specialist Beadlight designs, engineers and manufactures the ultimate reading lights using a unique diffusion system originally created for the aerospace industry. Founded in Oxford in the 1980s, today Beadlight combines its pedigree of electronic engineering excellence and impeccable eco credentials with Original BTC's design and manufacturing expertise.



DP7642/BR/WE/CL - Medium Box Wall Light





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FT620/BR - Oxford Double Table Light



FF630/BR - Oxford Double Floor Light



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We enjoy working on projects with trade customers. Whether an interior designer, architect, retailer or any other type of business, we are happy to help with all enquiries.



TRADE

Our team is here to provide information, listen to what you want to achieve with your project and make suggestions if required. We have over 1,500 standard items to select from, which are available within a reasonable time frame. Please get in contact via our enquiry form online at originalbtc.com.

RETAILERS

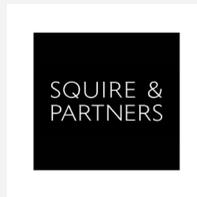
We always like to hear from businesses that are interested in selling our products in store or online. There are many ways that we can work with retailers and we like to find a solution that works best for both parties.

BESPOKE

We're committed to fulfilling our customer's needs and on occasion this means creating something completely exclusive. Whether it's producing a light from our existing range in a custom finish, or producing completely new lights for a customer's project, as a manufacturer we have the capabilities to make it happen.

For further information on the bespoke service we offer, please get in contact via the enquiry form at originalbtc.com.

Our Customers | A FEW EXAMPLES





DP0751/GM/PO - Mast Light, Polished Bronze



Firmdale Hotel - London



Beeftro - Luxembourg

Our lights are stocked in many of the world's leading retailers including Harrods, The Conran Shop, Merci Merci as well as featuring in shop fits for stores including Liberty and Ralph Lauren.

Hotel projects include The Four Seasons, The Lanesborough, The Savoy, Firmdale Hotels, The Kempinski Group, The Soho House Group, The Hoxton Paris and The Ace Hotels in London and New York.

We have supplied lights for many of the world's famous buildings, from Jesus College Cambridge to The Royal Pavilion, The Royal Academy and The Empire State Building.

Restaurant projects include Hawksmoor, Galvin's, Mama Shelter and Cecconi's Brooklyn.



Marriott Hotel - Warsaw



Harrods, Fresh Market Hall - London



Annabelle Hotel - Paphos



FP560N - Fin Horizontal Pendant





FT198N - Hector Medium Dome Table Light



FT700/BR - Banker's Desk Light







FW317N - Hector Medium Dome Wall Light



THE QUEEN'S AWARDS
FOR ENTERPRISE:
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
2015

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Winning a Queen's Award is a huge honour for the entire team – it's the highest accolade a company can receive in the UK. We've worked hard to produce high quality, well-designed lighting to show how successful British design and manufacturing can be.

PETER BOWLES

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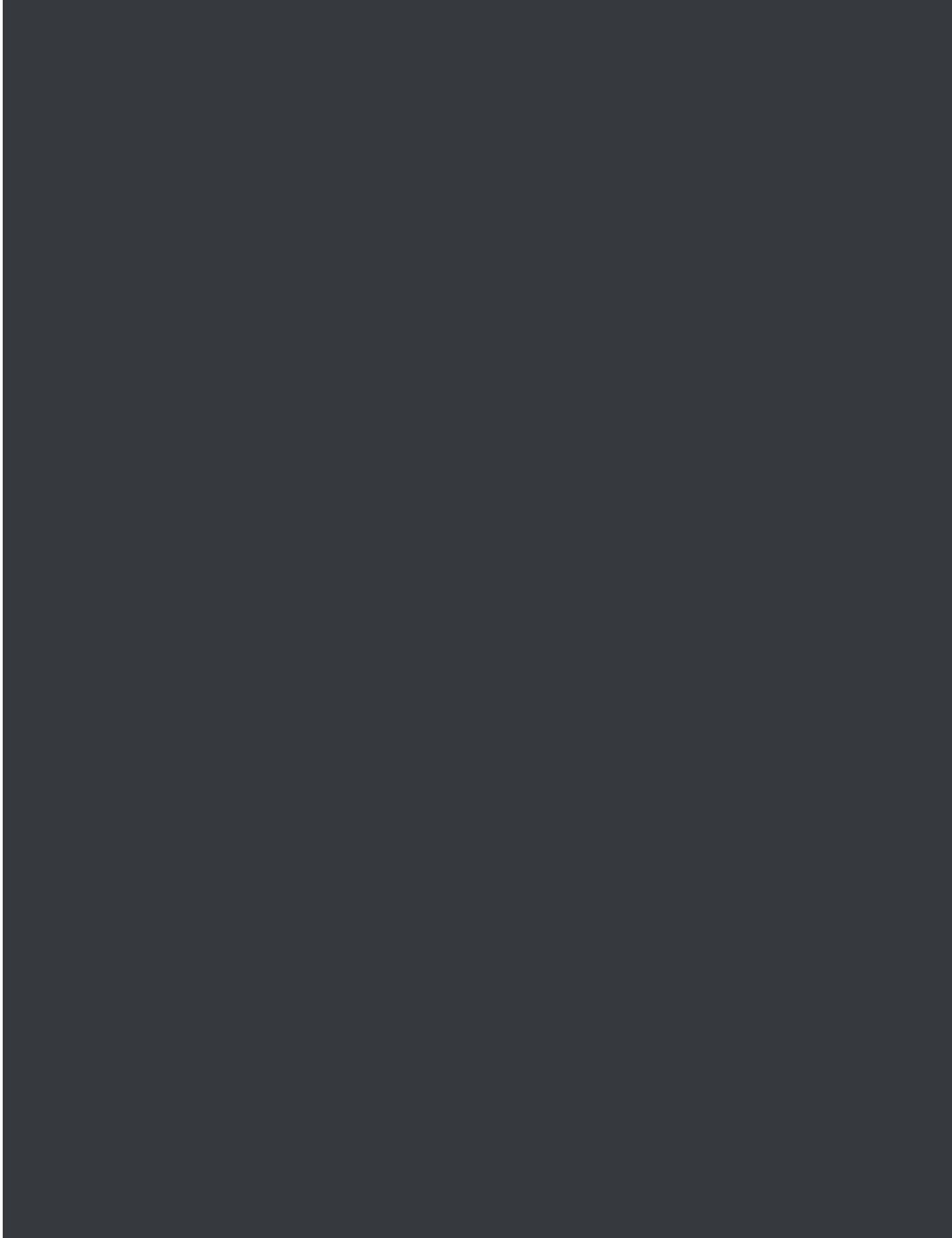
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