

Abstract

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING THE OPTICAL
SYSTEM OF A LIGHT FIXTURE

An apparatus and method for covering the optical system of a moving head light fixture with a filter or diffuser when the lighting fixture is turned off is provided. The filter or diffuser is positioned in the optical path between a lighting element and a lens. A retraction device is energized to retract the filter or diffuser from the optical path during normal operation. Upon removal of power to the fixture, the filter mechanism automatically returns the filter or diffuser to its position in the optical path. In this way, the optical system of the fixture can be protected from damage caused by impinging strong light and/or sunlight when the fixture is not in use.

[Fig 3]