

Gordon,

You may have missed how I control the illumination intensity. The attached photo shows my system. I have an iris at the output side of the fiber optic illuminator. The light guide is in a bushing that can be moved relative to the iris and locked with a thumbscrew. Moving the bundle out to the end of the travel and closing the iris results in a pin hole camera system of illuminating the end of the bundle. This is the situation for brightfield. I need high intensity illumination for darkfield and some polarized light work. The bundle is then moved flush with the iris and the iris is opened fully. I have no diffuser in my system for Koehler illumination. The light guide acts as a "light scrambler" in Leitz terminology. I first used this illumination control method for my reflected light brightfield illuminators in the mid 1980's. Jan Hinsch of Leitz was aware of my early work with fiber optic source illumination.

Ted

