

## **Articles**

## The Top Reasons for Using LEDs in Your Emergency Lighting Applications

Orlando Diaz

Emergency lighting and signaling is required in a large variety of enterprises including commercial, industrial, utilities, military, security, personal safety and more. One thing that is common to all emergency lighting and signaling applications is that extreme care must be taken when selecting the components used to make up the emergency circuitry.

Emergency lighting and signaling isn't a case where damaged or defective lighting components are simply an irritation requiring maintenance, rather a time when an outage can mean shutdown of equipment for safety reasons or in the worse case, an injury or fatality. Today's emergency lighting and signaling systems are increasingly being manufactured with LEDs to meet safety challenges such as:

- **Reliability** LEDs are, by far, more reliable that other lighting options. When it is imperative that a lighting system function at a moments notice, using LEDs in your design will ensure consistent and reliable operation.
- **Lower Power Consumption** LED circuits have lower power requirements than typical lighting options, thus resulting in a lower power requirement for your entire emergency lighting circuit.
- **Improved Illumination** LEDs are brighter and can be seen from double or triple the distance of incandescent or fluorescent bulbs.
- **No Filtering Circuit Requirements** Unlike standard luminaries, LEDs do not require a filtering circuit to remove the peaks of light outside the usable bandwidth.
- **Durability** LEDs can withstand vibration, movement and rougher environments than lighting elements that have bulbs and filaments.
- **Faster Switching** An emergency lighting circuit requires fast switching that is a characteristic of only one lighting type, LEDs. LEDs lighting circuit can be instantly switched on and/or off dependent on circuit requirements. There is no delay that can result in lost time in a circumstance where a second's notice can prevent harm or damage.
- Extended Lifecycle LEDs can have lifecycles anywhere from 5-10 years making them last many times longer than other luminaries.
- Simple Automation and System Integration LED characteristics such as 'Instant On/Off', the low power requirements and pulsing allow them to be easily integrated into an existing circuit design or a newly automated system.
- **No Mercury or UV Radiation** LED lighting options are not filled with mercury, neither do they emit radiation making them safer for any circuitry but especially circuits designed for safety. In addition, their safe composition means there are no special disposal requirements.
- Reduced Maintenance LED usage as your lighting component will mean less downtime and therefore, less maintenance; this not only saves time but also increases safety and reduces costs.

VCC is ready and able to supply all your Emergency LED lighting and signaling needs. <u>Contact us</u> today and make your emergency lighting application more reliable, durable, earth friendly and flexible.

**Visual Communications Company, Inc.** 12780 Danielson Court, Suite A Poway, CA 92064 USA

Phone: 858.386.5666 Toll Free: 800.522.5546 Fax: 800.521.0844

For any sales or engineering inquiries: vccsales@vcclite.com

