

A successful collaboration:  
OPTTECH - Optics and photonics  
college centre for technology  
transfer and Technostrobe



## The LED-based Beacon: Effective and Economical

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Last winter, Technostrobe began marketing an especially innovative warning light for obstructions, giving airline pilots peace of mind and ensuring the safety of their passengers when flying over tall structures like towers, wind farms and industrial smokestacks.

Called the LED-based beacon, this new tool uses light-emitting diode bulbs: this technology has been "available for the past five years" in the obstruction lighting industry and is known for its long life (ten years minimum) and low energy consumption.

"We wanted to offer our clients products that consumed less energy than standard incandescent bulbs," affirms Francis Lacombe, a Technostrobe executive. Very pleased to have achieved this objective, Mr. Lacombe demonstrates the efficiency of the new LED-based beacon by comparing it to old beacons that operated with two incandescent bulbs: "Each of these bulbs consumed 700 W, or 1400 W in all. One LED-based beacon consumes only 20 W."

"This remarkable energy savings represents significant cost savings of some \$1000 per LED-based beacon," adds Mr. Lacombe.



### High-profile, satisfied clients

To comply with regulations, all tower owners must install warning lights to protect their structures from the hazards of air traffic. For this reason, wireless communication specialists like Bell, Telus, and Rogers, broadcasters like Radio-Canada, TVA, CTV, and CBC and wind farm owners "have already contacted us about our products."

### The source of this success: Optech

Specialized in optics, this college centre for technology transfer devised the beacon's "optical and mechanical designs" and then found the sources capable of generating the luminous intensity required by Technostrobe.

Mr. Lacombe has only good things to say about **Optech's** performance: "We had the pleasure of working with a competent team that was attentive to our needs; it had the advanced expertise we needed to develop our technology."

Technostrobe's LED-based beacon is patent-pending, which is further proof of Optech's success as the company was also asked "to find a design that meets the standards of patentability." Notes Mr. Lacombe, thanks to Optech, Technostrobe now holds a leading position in the "select" club of obstruction lighting manufacturers. □

