



Northwest Trade Ally Network
Commercial & Industrial Lighting

Illuminating opportunities

LIGHTING TECHNOLOGY RESOURCE: LED Lamps Now Available For Refrigerated Case Applications

Illuminating refrigerated display cases and coolers has always been a challenge. Incandescent sources stand up to cold temperatures, but are not energy-efficient and create heat, causing the refrigeration system to work even harder. Fluorescent lighting addresses the heat problem, but generally do not perform at their best in the medium or low temperature environment of a refrigeration case or cooler. Hard-starting, short lamp life, and a costly clean up if a lamp breaks, are all shortcomings of fluorescent technology for refrigeration applications.

Now there is a better alternative available—light emitting diodes (LEDs). Compared to fluorescent technology, LEDs are more energy-efficient, give off less heat, last far longer and need no special disposal procedures at end of life.

[LED Light Biz](#) packages LEDs in the standard linear lengths and pin configuration of conventional T-12/T-8 fluorescent lamps. This approach simplifies the installation process by simply bypassing or removing the existing ballast and wiring direct to AC voltage.

[Lumination](#) and [LED Power](#) are two companies that provide a different approach that retrofits LEDs with an entire new fixture platform.

Many electric utilities provide incentives for LED conversions under a “custom” approach. If you are considering LED technology for refrigerated installations, contact the serving utility company. Check the [NWTAN Utility Locator](#).

For more general information on LED technology, visit these industry support sites: [LED Journal](#), [LEDs Magazine](#), and [SS Lighting](#).