Finding The Right LED System

Andy Cooper, Vice President, Sales & Marketing, QED Medical

LED technology has come a long way. Today's systems provide exceptional illumination, lightweight designs and extended battery life. While the technology does not yet match the intensity output of the more common Xenon powered light source, there is certainly a place in the medical arena for these systems.

When applicable, the right LED system can minimize cost, maximize mobility and considerably lessen an office or hospital's carbon footprint.

Starting with the power source – generally a rechargeable Lithium Ion battery pack – you immediately move away from the higher power consumption of a light source or wall outlet from the equation. Given the longevity of Lithium technology, a battery can last for several years before requiring replacement. When necessary, there are several options available for recycling replaced packs.

Another area for both economical and ecological "green" savings relates to lamps: in an LED there aren't any. The LED (Light Emitting Diode) is a grown, electrical component that, in most cases, is powered at a level that allows for a life span of 50,000 hours. When you consider halogen lamps historically last 100 hours – that represents a considerable reduction in refuse.

If an LED system is purchased to replace a fiber optic headlight, then additional benefits are achieved in removing the potential to replace fiber optic bundles as necessary.

A final, but important consideration brings us back to the battery pack and how many batteries will take a doctor through a procedure. The fewer batteries required to get the user through the day or procedure the better and depending on the battery technology used, power consumption, the light design, and operating wattage, units can differ in this area.

In the end, there is no question LED technology can assist an office or hospital greatly in its efforts to go green. The key question that must be asked first is: will the LED provide the level of intensity needed for the desired use? If the answer is yes – the LED technology is a no brainer.

Source URL (retrieved on *09/16/2014 - 5:57pm*):
http://www.surgicalproductsmag.com/articles/2011/05/finding-right-led-system?qt-most_popular=0