

BEST PRACTICES

Linear LED replacement lamps

Linear LED lamp replacement for existing T8/T5 electronic ballasted fixtures can be a great way to reduce your energy and maintenance costs. To ensure your project is successful, it is important to exercise due diligence. This is particularly important as Linear LED lamps are relatively new, and the data for all lamp/ballast combinations is limited.

Important items to consider:

- **The age of your existing ballasts:** To maximize the lifespan of the system and accommodate future control options, it may be a good idea to re-ballast at the same time you complete the LED lamp upgrade. Ask your contractor or supplier to provide an analysis of both options
- **Electronic instant start:** Check to see that your existing ballast is electronic instant start. Most LED lamps are unlikely to operate correctly with rapid start, magnetic, dimmable or programmable ballasts
- **Compatibility:** Even if you have instant start ballasts, not all LED lamps are compatible with all ballasts. Have your contractor check with the manufacturer to determine the lamp and ballast compatibility, and the combination's tested energy performance
- **Contingency:** As most sites will have a variety of ballasts installed, you should carry project contingency to accommodate re-ballasting when non-compatible ballasts are identified during the installation phase
- **Sample area:** Consider doing a sample area first and have your contractor or supplier verify the performance from both an energy saving and light output perspective (i.e. light levels, uniformity and distribution)
- **Emergency backup system:** Confirm the proposed LED replacement lamps are compatible with your emergency backup system
- **Warranty:** Confirm applicable warranty with the LED lamp manufacturer(s) and the ballast manufacturer (if applicable) based on the lamp and ballast combination
- **Designations:** All technologies must meet applicable Code, standard and regulatory requirement, including, but not limited to CSA/cUL. It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that the technology is suitable to its intended application and to confirm that light levels of the energy-efficient design meet the minimum regulatory requirement and the suggested levels for the proposed use of the space. All products must be legal for sale in Canada
- **Disposal or Decommissioning:** Take all necessary steps to have equipment that was removed or replaced as part of any project disposed of or decommissioned in accordance with appropriate disposal or decommissioning processes, applicable laws, and in accordance with commercially reasonable environmental practices and shall evidence such activities by appropriate disposal certificates or similar documentation

