



Leading Light Initiative

Introduction

Professionals working in rural and remote communities throughout the developing world are leading lights in their communities. In addition to the services that they provide, health care, educational, conservation and development professionals represent hope for a brighter future.

Mission

Provide high quality solar powered LED lanterns to professionals working in rural and remote communities throughout the developing world.

Product

The STAR EcoWorks Solar Powered LED Lantern is bright, effective and robust. Tests indicate that the lantern provides more effective illumination than a 15 watt incandescent bulb. In addition, uniform circular coverage is 1.9 meters, at a distance of one meter from the LED lamp. Components are housed in sealed plastic enclosures and stainless steel brackets are used to mount the lamp to the battery box.

This lantern is designed to be assembled or serviced using common hand tools by almost anyone after a modest amount of training. As well, it is adaptable to components supplied from in-country sources.



Solar Powered LED Lantern

Process

The process of delivering this product to professionals in rural and remote communities will engage and connect a wide variety of volunteers and organizations, each with a resource contribution to make. The resources required include time, talent, cash and connections and these resources are expected to be provided in varying degrees by participants in a collaborative grouping. Kits with all of the components required for the complete lantern, along with the training and technical support needed for the collaborative groupings to be successful, are provided by STAR EcoWorks.

For example, a collaborative grouping may include high school students with the time and talent to assemble six to ten units, with co-funding provided by a local service organization and connections to the remote group of professionals provided by an organization that is active in both locations. The collaborative groupings are expected to vary considerably and this process is highly adaptable to suit the needs of participants.

About STAR EcoWorks

The 'STAR' in STAR EcoWorks is an acronym for Sustainable, Teachable, Adaptable & Repeatable, which are the criteria used to measure the success of products and activities. STAR EcoWorks is a social enterprise based in Calgary, Canada.