

Cost Comparison in LED Lighting and Selection Criteria in LEDs

Olcay PALTA¹, Selman YILDIRIM¹, İbrahim YAPICI¹, Muhammed EREN¹,
Zeki İlcihan¹, Erdem AYBAY², Gamze GENCER^{1*}

¹Department of Technical Vocational School, Bitlis Eren University, Bitlis, Turkey

²Department of Foreign Languages, Bitlis Eren University Bitlis, Turkey

*Corresponding Author: gamzegencer1313@gmail.com

Abstract: In this study, LED selection criteria, comparative technical data of LEDs and other lamps and price analyzes are evaluated. In addition, today's development of LED technology is examined and the reasons for using LED lamps in lighting are mentioned.

Keywords: LED lighting, Selection criteria, Cost comparison

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I. Introduction

Nowadays, lighting technologies are developing all over the world much faster than before. From the perspective of energy consumption, the most important development in recent years is LED-based lighting [1-4]. LED systems are preferred in almost all areas of lighting as they are long lasting, highly efficient and controllable, they can easily be installed, they don't include mercurial, they offer many colors and flexible solution opportunities and they are constantly expanding their market share [5-7]. The lighting devices from past to the present are shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Lighting devices from past to the present

As a light source, LEDs are comparable to fluorescent and HID systems in terms of efficiency, smart controllability and applicability. Although this lighting, called Solid State Lighting (SSL), offers many advantages, the armature and control systems still need more improvement in terms of optimal efficiency [8-11].

LED lighting systems are advantageous in creating these control schemes with their lighting plenitude sensors, dimming and color changing features, and their ability of wired and wireless connection to the central control system. LEDs are used in aeronautical and automotive lighting, brake lights, signs and traffic signs [12-14].

Solid State Lighting

LED, Light Emitting Diode, is a semiconductor light source. Stimulating electrons by applying the voltage, the LED starts to radiate. This effect is called "electroluminescence" or "electroluminescence". Electroluminescence was discovered by British researcher H.J Round in 1907. The first LED considered father of today's LEDs was made by Nick Holonyak Jr., working in General Electric Company in 1962 [15-21]. The a typical LED are shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2. A Typical LED

LED's Working Principle

LEDs start to emit light by turning on starting from an average of 10mA and 1.5V value. The emission power of light emitting diodes decreases in proportion to time. When the output power drops to half of normal power, the diode economically completes its life [22-27]. The intensity of light emitted by the LED increases in direct proportion to the current passing through it. However, this increase is linear to a certain value of the current [28-31]. If the diode current exceeds the point where the linearity called the threshold value is broken, the diode will overheat and break down.

LED's Selection Criteria

Important criteria for selection of LED lighting systems are listed below [32-52].

- **Led Index:**

The LED index or its form of display (sheath) are vital part of the LED selection and it is a process that determines both optical index and color and light output. While some chips are a single circuit, others can be part of a group in a sheath called a bind. Each single circuit can have different color and brightness, the LEDs in the bind are fed from the same driver and behave exactly the same.

- **Color Rendering Index**

The success of light sources to show colors of the objects they illuminate is determined by the 'Color Rendering Index CRI' or 'color difference index Ra'. The maximum theoretical value of CRI is 100. Light sources are classified as medium color-difference-indexed if their color difference index in between 50-70, good color-difference indexed if it is between 70-90, and perfect color difference indexed if it is between 90-100. The CIE divides color difference index in 5 main groups. Color difference index and efficiency factors of lamps are inversely proportional to each other. Figure 3 shows the CRI-upper 50 and CRI-lower 81 of the CRI.



Figure 3. CRI-upper 50 and CRI-lower 81

- **Color Temperature**

Color temperature is specified in 0K. The lowest temperature is expressed as light yellow LEDs or warm white. As 0K value increases, white LEDs which look brighter are called cold white. Yellow and red are warm colors, blue and green are cold colors. The ideal color temperature depends on the place of use. For example, a cold white LED is ideal for a jewellery window or hospital lighting. Warm white LEDs are suitable for illuminating homes and hotel lobbies. Neutral (warm white) gives good result for store and office lighting. Figure 4 shows the color temperature in LED lamps.



Figure 4. Color temperature of LED lamps

▪ Cooling System

The poor heat distribution results in loss of efficiency, shortening of LED's life and deterioration of color transition. The LEDs usually breakdown at 125 ° C, so it is tried to keep the temperature of the connection point below 125 ° C. There are 4 basic elements to consider for temperature;

- ✚ ambient temperature,
- ✚ cooling material,
- ✚ drive current,
- ✚ array of bind or LEDs

There are two types of cooling systems, active cooling and passive cooling, for heat removal. There is a fan system in active cooling and extra power is consumed. Passive cooling is usually done with a metal core. The LED sectional view is shown in Figure 5.

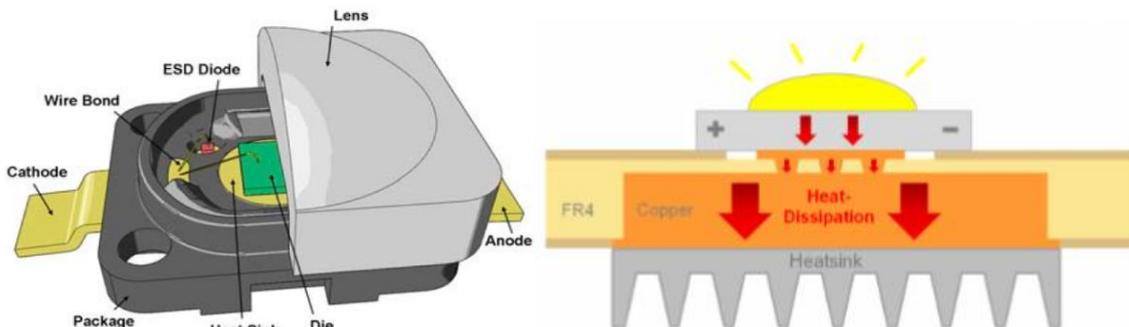


Figure 5. LED sectional view

▪ Light diffusion angle

Light flux spread around 1800, with lenses this light is limited within the desired interval. Light diffusion angle is defined as the angle at which 50% of the light from the LED is located.

▪ Light flux output (Efficiency Factor)

The Efficiency Factor expresses lamp efficiency as a lumen per watt. . Although the current flowing over the LEDs is constant, due to the increased ambient temperature caused by characteristic features of the diodes their efficiency factors decreases. This drop can vary between 0.3% and 0.7% for each grade according to the type of materials LEDs are made of.

Economic analysis in LED lighting

LEDs have advantages compared to incandescent lamps, such as lower energy consumption, longer life, robustness, smaller sizes, faster switching, higher durability and reliability [52-63]. Compared to a compact fluorescent lamp that emits the same light, they need more stable current and heat management. Figure 6 shows the comparison of Leds to other lamps in terms of price and efficiency factors [64].

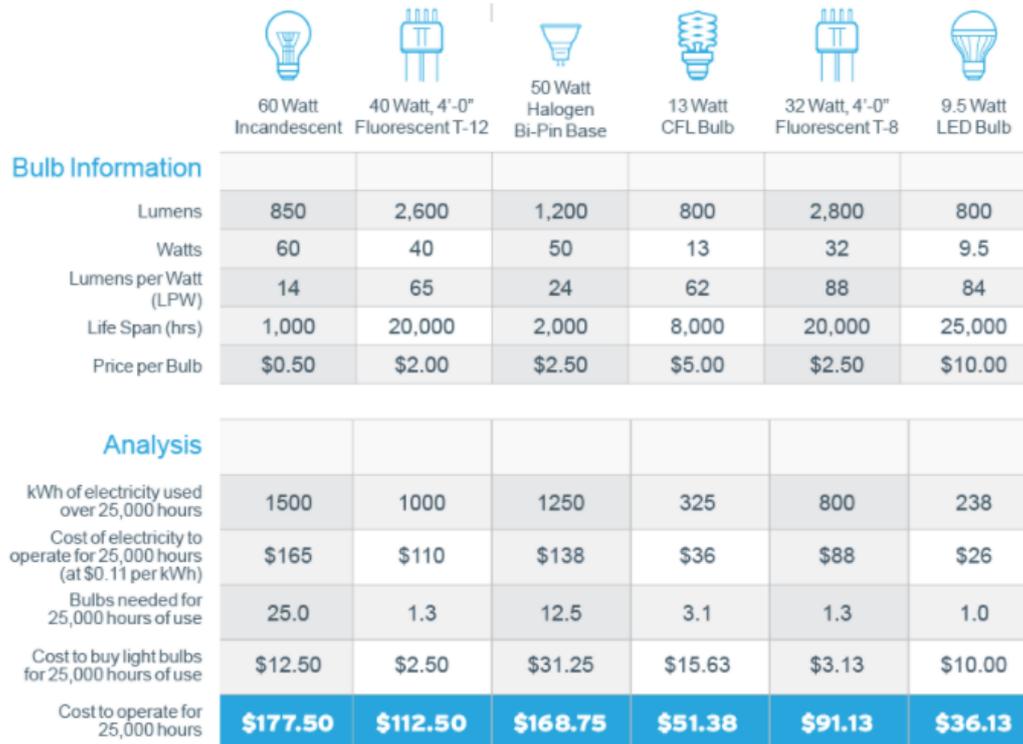


Figure 6. Comparison of LEDs to other lamps in terms of price and efficiency factor [62].

II. Results and Discussion

Lumens per Watt shows how efficient a bulb is at converting power into light. At 10 lumens per watt, a 100 watt bulb is not very efficient. The energy lost is converted into heat, which is why incandescent bulbs are much hotter to the touch than CFL or LED bulbs. The efficiency of CFL bulbs in converting energy into light falls between that of incandescent and LED bulbs. As LED bulbs continue to improve, CFL bulbs will likely be phased out. For homeowners, LED bulbs are the most efficient bulbs at converting energy into light. LEDs aren't always a 'slam dunk' though – for commercial buildings, 4' 0" t-8 fluorescent tubes are more efficient than LED bulbs.

The last three rows in the chart show the important differences between bulbs. Incandescent, florescent, and CFL bulbs don't have the same lifespan as LED bulbs, so you'll have to purchase additional bulbs as the old ones burn out. Those extra bulbs cost money. To get 25,000 hours of use from 60-watt incandescent bulbs, you'll have to spend \$12.50 in bulbs, more than the cost of one LED. The Cost to Operate number provides the best approximation of the total value of the bulb. LED bulbs win this comparison hands-down. Despite the high up-front costs of LED bulbs, their low cost of operation and long lifespan mean that they are a much better investment than incandescent, florescent, or halogen bulbs.

III. Conclusion

Today, the lighting sector is developing rapidly. The biggest development in the lighting sector is seen in the LED lamp sector. LED lighting should be used for economical energy consumption. As seen in Figure 6, LED lighting is 1.5 times lower than the lowest cost lighting. Instead of individual feature control in the selection of LED lamps, 6 basic features should be evaluated together.

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