

solar LED lights defying darkness

Our fascination with continuous light, day and night, inspired Thomas Edison's invention of the light bulb in 1879.

Interview w/ Patrick Beugnon, Vice President, Solar LED Innovations

China manufacturers have been making solar torches for decades, now American companies are claiming superiority in solar powered nickel-metal hydride batteries in flashlights with **light emitting diodes (LED) bulbs that can light up for 100,000 hours.**

In 1932, Frank Chorman capitalized on this fascination and brought nighttime sports to light by transporting his portable stadium lights from town to town. Utilizing the best technology of the time, Chorman and his family drove across the states and Canada lighting ice-skating rinks, baseball fields and stadiums.

In 2008, Frank's son, Thomas Chorman, a former financial executive at Procter and Gamble started Solar LED Innovations with the help of his nephew Patrick Beugnon. Chorman developed several revolutionary patents in transportable lighting with solar-powered lights.

Solar LED Innovations' products are assembled and packaged in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania by Handi-Crafters, an organization for people with some developmental disabilities. By employing the services of Handi-Crafters, many people with limited work-related skills have access to worthwhile employment and make a valuable contribution to the local economy.

"We are going back to our family's core business of lighting," said Beugnon, Vice President of Solar LED Innovations. "Solar is an attractive business to be in today, and enjoys a 50 percent annual growth rate."

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The company is developing a 4-pack light set and solar-powered generator that can light homes for up to four days. These come with LED bulbs and use 95 percent less electricity than incandescent bulbs or compact fluorescent lamps.

"Combined with solar, our new LED lights allow your lighting needs to be independent from the grid," Beugnon said. "You can use it for outdoor living, camping, and for emergency lighting during hurricanes, earthquakes, and blackouts."

According to Beugnon, one of their flashlights saves 2,800 batteries from the landfill because the batteries can be recharged in direct sunlight 1,400 times before they can be safely recycled. He said the company continues to explore the latest technology to continue providing innovative and quality lighting products like their mobile phone charger kit and their mirror inspection light that provides up to 40 hours of continuous use on a full solar charge.