

How eco-friendly lighting towers can help rail contractors to reduce their carbon footprint

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As the rail industry strives to meet its net zero targets and to reduce costs we look at the difference eco-friendly lighting towers can make on site.

In the winter months, rail contractors across the country become more reliant on **lighting towers**. But with growing pressure to reduce carbon emissions at every level of the supply chain (**Network Rail has committed to reaching net zero in England and Wales by 2050**), are traditional diesel lighting towers fit for purpose?

Many contractors assume opting for eco-friendly alternatives will hit their bottom line – something they simply cannot afford in today's economic climate. This is probably driven by reports that reaching net zero will cost \$3.5 trillion each year.¹

But, in reality, the transition needn't be hard on all areas of business. Modelling carried out by Cambridge Econometrics has demonstrated that tackling the cost of living while simultaneously accelerating the UK's low-carbon transition would create "win-wins"². And our research shows that eco-friendly **lighting towers** deliver these mutually beneficial outcomes.

The industry is already taking note. In 2020, Network Rail outlined its [plan to reduce direct emissions](#) by, amongst other things, “looking for energy-efficient alternatives to some of the infrastructure that’s traditionally high consuming.” But how can such equipment – including lighting towers – help contractors to cut emissions?



The economic case for eco-friendly lighting towers

Traditional lighting units use large amounts of fuel across their lifecycle; indeed, lots of energy is required to transport, run and maintain them. The high costs associated with these units can hit rail contractors hard – an issue only exacerbated by rising fuel prices.

Switching to eco-friendly lighting towers presents an opportunity to save on fuel costs. This is because they require far less to run – and make the fuel they do use go a lot further.

Volumetric data from sites hiring our equipment has shown that every X-Eco HYBRID LITHIUM saves £108 per week in fuel costs – and £430 per month.

Switching is easier than you think

These figures clearly demonstrate the benefits of switching to innovative, eco-friendly lighting towers. But many contractors still assume that sourcing such equipment must be difficult.

Welfare Hire ensures it is simple to make the switch. With market-leading customer service, inclusive maintenance and support, and 99.1% perfect hires, we have helped countless contractors introduce eco-friendly lighting towers – and support the rail industry's decarbonisation efforts.

1.<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/01/net-zero-cost-3-5-trillion-a-year/>

2.https://www.corporateleadersgroup.com/files/clg_uk_the_best_of_both_worlds_policy_briefing_270622.pdf
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