

Life cycle costing for street lighting

Nighttime lighting does not match with the natural lighting in anyway due to economical and technical problems. But the importance of street lighting could never be ignored due to this reason.

A creation of a nighttime environment in which people can see comfortably and vehicle can easily and accurately identify objects is a main feature of a quality street lighting system. Efficient luminaries, lamps and switches also help to result in good lighting and achieve effective energy management.

Adverse effects like glare, light trespass, up light and too much light can be often found in outdoor lighting and it wastes energy. Since energy costs money and as operating cost is usually greater than initial costing of the light fixture the necessity of a quality street lighting system is highlighted.

On the other hand when talking on environmental effects, although some may feel that lighting is not the area usually associated, it has been estimated by International Dark-Sky Association, U.S.A that 35% to 50% of light pollution is caused by street lighting. Quality street lighting is the key of solution for this. It is where the importance of life cycle costing (LCC) should be identified, as the tool for cost control over the life of the street lamp by which value for money could be achieved depending on the level of control over the life of operation.