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White Paper

Composite Light Systems, Wheeled and Tracked Vehicles for the Twenty-First Century

A proposal is made herewith to redesign, in conjunction with our industry partners and TARDEC, the Composite Light System used on wheeled and tracked vehicles. The redesign effort will have the goals to reduce envelope, power consumption, weight and cost. Specific redesign proposals can be submitted upon request. The best features of the presently employed composite light systems would be incorporated into the twenty-first century design.

The presently employed Composite Light System has been in use for over fifty years. Some colors and materials are no longer available from the manufacturers specified on the drawings. Many of the drawings are not available in electronic formats. Some specifications have been changed to ASTM while the drawings reflect Mil specifications that have been obsolete over twenty years. Blackout filters are specified with tristimulus callouts for incandescent light source while the actual light source being employed is light emitting diode (LED). Now is the time to redesign and reengineer Composite Lights for Twenty-First Century Vehicles that will be designed from the ground up. The new Composite Lights would incorporate U. S. Army TACOM Life Cycle Management Command's latest targets for blackout lighting, infrared emission, and on-road SAE requirements.

The author to this paper has worked in the fields of plastics polymers and manufacturing for over four decades and has employed his knowledge and expertise in the design and production of military components over the same period.

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