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The L Prize Update is an electronic newsletter to share the latest information on the competition, entrants, and partner activities involved in this race to replace the common light bulb. More details on the competition can be found at the [L Prize website](#).

Field Assessments of First Entry Wrap Up

It was a busy summer for the L Prize competition. More than 1,300 samples of the Philips L Prize entry were sent to 40-plus sites across the U.S. and Canada to be field-tested in a wide range of applications. The settings varied tremendously, from large “wedding cake” lobby chandeliers at the Merchandise Mart in Chicago (left) to a car dealership in Clinton Township, Michigan (center) to kitchen lighting in a Colorado home (right).



Fourteen L Prize Partners – including BC Hydro, Cape Light Compact, Commonwealth Edison, DTE Energy, Efficiency Vermont, Eugene Water & Electric Board, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, National Grid, Platte River Power Authority, Progress Energy, Puget Sound Energy, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Southern California Edison, and Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corporation – used site measurements and user surveys to evaluate the sample products for energy efficiency, performance, reliability, and customer acceptance. Field-testing completed in September, and partners' final reports began to arrive at DOE in October.

Long-term Testing Exceeds 3,000 Hours



In June, 200 product samples of the Philips entry were sent to Pacific Northwest National Laboratory to begin long-term lumen maintenance testing, using a new test bed specially designed for the L Prize competition. That testing, which will continue through early next year, will be conducted for a minimum of 6,000 hours at an elevated ambient temperature of 45° C. By October, more than 3,000 hours of testing had elapsed. Meanwhile, plans are under way to begin stress testing on sample products in November, subjecting the Philips entry to extreme conditions such as high temperatures and humidity, rapid cycling, and electromagnetic interference.

Technical Review Committee Up and Running

A Technical Review Committee (TRC) has been assembled to review all reports, test results, findings, and documentation for L Prize entries, in order to determine whether they meet the competition requirements. The eight TRC members come from all over the country and were chosen for their different areas of expertise, which range from energy conservation, to market introduction, to manufacturing, to lighting applications. It's important that the TRC cover all those areas, in order to ensure the viability of winning products from all standpoints – not only technological, but manufacturing and marketing as well.

The TRC has been meeting regularly as well as conducting site visits, and is busy reviewing a wide range of data. The TRC will play an ongoing role in the evaluation of this first L Prize entry, and others that follow.

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