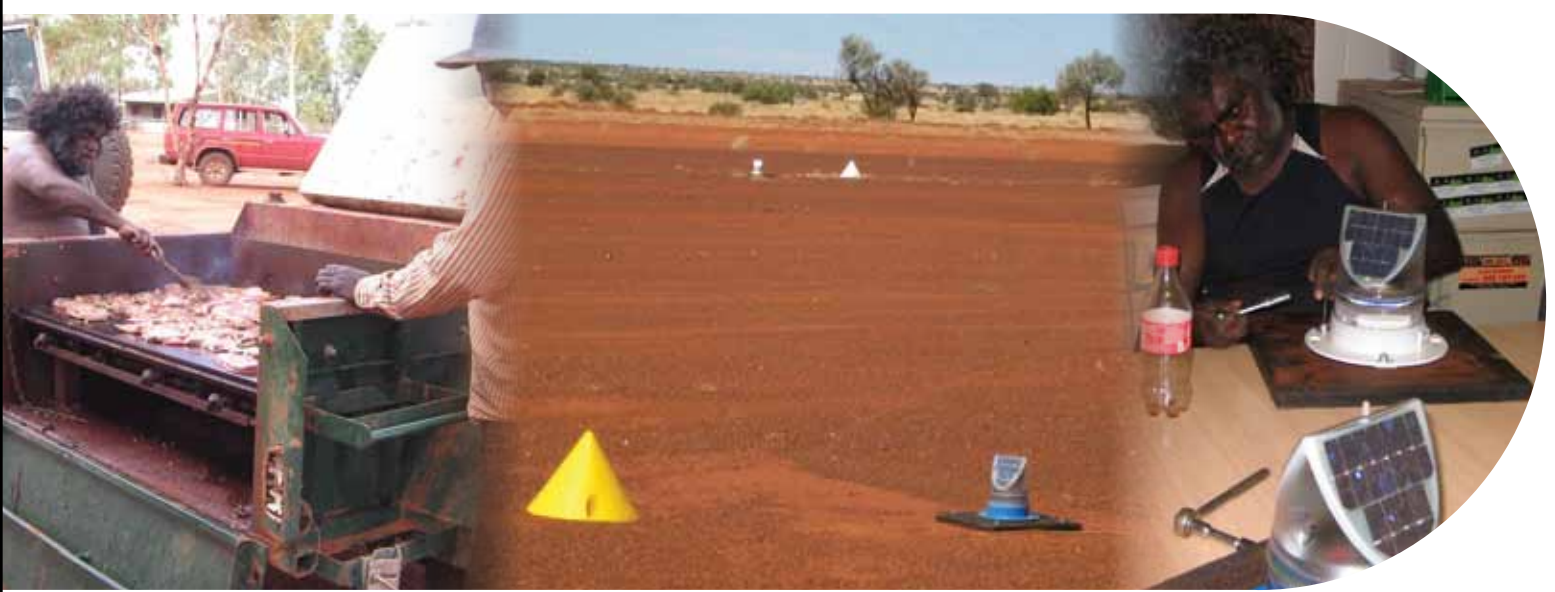




## Remote Airfield Lighting Wanarn, Western Australia



Images and article courtesy of Patricia Granger, Wanarn Community

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

<b>Location:</b>	Australia
<b>Date:</b>	January 2010
<b>Owners:</b>	Wanarn Community
<b>Site:</b>	Wanarn, WA
<b>Product:</b>	AV70-RF, AV-LC
<b>Application:</b>	Radio Controlled solar powered airfield lighting

### BENEFITS

- Added pilot safety during night time RFDS evacuations
- Time and manpower required for night time evacuations has been dramatically reduced
- Radio controller allows lights to be switched on when required
- Solar powered lighting allows this remote airstrip to be lit without the need to lay expensive cabling
- Demonstrates to the community the practical use of solar energy

Patricia Granger, from Wanarn Community has been so thrilled with their recent purchase of AV70's that she visited the Avlite premises for a tour. "The Avlite lights have been fantastic and I have been recommending Avlite to all of the local communities."

**Patricia Granger**  
CDA  
Wanarn Community

## Avlite Solar Airfield Lights are the Preferred Choice for the Wanarn Community

42 x AV70 Solar Aviation Lights and Avlite's airfield marker cones were chosen to replace the old battery lanterns used on the Wanarn airstrip.

Wanarn Aboriginal Community is located 18km from the Grand Central Highway. The outback highway bisects the Ngaanyatjarra lands providing access to the two major regional centres of Alice Springs and Kalgoorlie. The grand central highway is unsealed and subject to wet weather closure.

Wanarn has an unsealed airstrip that services the community with a weekly mail run and had battery operated lights for night time RFDS evacuations. A need was identified to have permanent airstrip lights at Wanarn due to the increase of night evacuations.

The old airstrip lighting were battery lanterns which had to be twisted to turn on or off. These lanterns were in a dilapidated state with most of them held together with duct tape to make them work. Putting out these lanterns by hand was a tiresome job and it usually depended on luck whether they would work or not, or had enough battery charge. It took, in total, 3 people and 5 hours to do a night time evacuation, a huge drain on resources and manpower.

Avlite had the perfect solution for the lighting situation. Avlite's AV70 was chosen because it is a complete, solar, rechargeable unit with remote control access.

Grants were applied for to RADS (Remote Aerodrome Development scheme) and RASP (Remote Aerodrome Safety Program), and letters of support were given from RFDS (Royal Flying Doctor Service) and various other airstrip users.

The CDEP work crew started to assemble the lights before placing them at the airstrip with cones evenly spaced between the lights. A BBQ was organised for the workers and a celebration for the "Grand Light Up" was planned that evening. The whole community cheered as the lights were flicked on.

The lights have already been used on several occasions reducing the staff time to 1 person and only 20mins before an RDF plane is due.