



**FEC Heliports Equipment**



## New FEC Heliports PAD Star® *Solar Plus* Helipad Lighting System

*Addenbrookes Hospital & East Anglia Air Ambulance (EAAA), UK*



### Application:

PAD Star® *Solar Plus* installed for use by EAAA and Air Ambulances in the surrounding regions, upgrading the existing helipad lighting system and providing a reliable, fully supported solution to maintain extended day and night operational hours

### Location:

Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, UK

### Benefits:

- Entirely Solar Powered System
- Includes 18' Internally Illuminated LED Wind Cone with Inbuilt Dusk to Dawn Obs. Light
- Secure IP65 Rated Cabinet Housing for Manual/UHF Controllable Lighting Control Unit
- VHF Air-to-Ground Remote Controlled from Aircraft at over 10km (Line of Sight)
- Low Maintenance and Remote Support Capability via UHF
- SMS Connectivity and System Monitoring Available
- Fully Installed, Tested and Operational within a Week
- PAD-Star®: FEC Heliports Latest Generation of Wired LED Helipad Lighting solutions

*“The East Anglian Air Ambulance (EAAA) needed an urgent replacement for the lighting system at our region's major regional trauma unit; Addenbrookes hospital, when the existing system failed. The FEC Heliports solar powered option was ideally suited to the site and in a number of ways represented a step up from the old system with no reliance on the hospital infrastructure and services and with reliable on-call back up from FEC Heliports. It was quick to install and test and was on-line in a matter of weeks from our initial order. The company has been responsive and flexible to our needs and we are looking forward to developing more helipad lighting solutions with them in the future.”*

Alan Ward - Aviation Advisor  
East Anglia Air Ambulance



Since 2000, **East Anglia Air Ambulance (EAAA)** has responded to almost 23,000 missions, increasing year on year, with the 2016-2017 period busier than ever before at **over 3000 missions attended**. Established with just one helicopter and operating one day a week in Norfolk, with a pilot and a paramedic, the operation has now expanded to two modern Airbus H145 helicopters, which are based at Norwich and Cambridge airports and now carry two pilots, a doctor and a critical care paramedic minimum per mission. They are available seven days a week, providing critical emergency care across the region.

In 2014, EAAA became the first air ambulance in the country to develop a night flying capability. Out of all of the vast number of missions flown in 2016-2017, more than 250 (circa 10%) were at night. Using night vision technology, EAAA crews can reach patients in the remotest parts of the region, however, lighting systems that meet strict regulatory guidelines are still required at several “unlit” hospital helipads. Where such lighting is not available; the EAAA is working with these hospitals, in conjunction with FEC Heliports and the HELP Appeal, to both fund and install market leading, fully compliant lighting solutions.

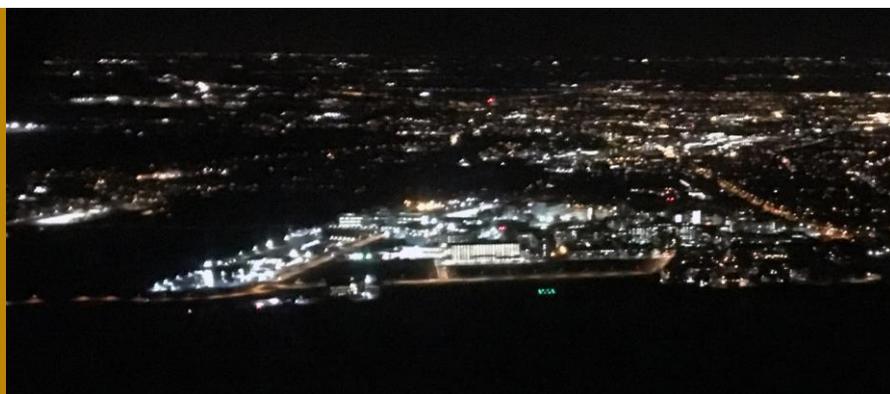
The new FEC PAD-Star® helipad lighting system solution at Addenbrookes was selected, in part, for its seamless, straight forward installation capability, hence preventing any prolonged periods of low visibility/night operational downtime and potential diversion of critically ill patients to trauma centres farther afield. In fact, with a total “end to end”, site preparation, installation, testing and go live time of 1 week and just 1-day that all helipad lighting was off-line (during daylight hours) for switch over from the legacy to new FEC PAD-Star® system; an impressive zero helipad downtime was achieved.

The complete upgrade and provision of the new FEC PAD-Star® helipad lighting system at Addenbrookes hospital was again, **entirely financed through funds raised by the HELP Appeal; as they will do so for other Air Ambulance charities and hospital helipad projects**. FEC, EAAA and the HELP Appeal are also currently engaged with the estates offices at both the Peterborough and Colchester Hospitals in designing, planning and implementing very similar PAD-Star® helipad lighting systems, enabling these hospitals to also deliver extended operating hours and critical care services.

FEC PAD-Star® provides a low voltage lighting system which includes both visible and Infra-Red (IR) LEDs. Operating from 110-240V AC 50-60Hz or 12V -24V DC it is ideal for solar and battery power supply. Precise control and monitoring of individual lights is enabled with communication over the cables to intelligent light drivers. The FEC PAD-Star® lighting controller includes wireless UHF technology allowing the lights to all be configured, tested, monitored and operated wirelessly from a PC. At Addenbrookes the system also benefits from a VHF air-band receiver, allowing pilots to activate the lighting from the air and to switch channels to vary the lights' intensity.

*The **FEC Heliports PAD-Star Helipad Lighting System** is unmistakably visible in almost all-weather conditions, light ambience and environmental backdrops that they are deployed against.*

*The photograph on the right was taken by an EAAA crew member on approach to Addenbrookes, at over 2Km out, with the lights set at 50% intensity.*



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