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D.LIGHT CELEBRATES ONE MILLION LIVES IMPACTED THROUGH SOLAR LIGHTING
Social Enterprise Sells Hundreds of Thousands to Households in Over 30 Countries

Hong Kong, 15 March 2010 – D.light Design today announced that it has impacted one million lives around the world through its solar lighting products. Since being founded less than three years ago, the social enterprise has sold hundreds of thousands of solar lanterns to off-grid households in developing countries around the world. This marks a significant milestone in the global effort to provide modern, bright and dependable lighting for the 1.6 billion individuals in the world without access to electricity.

“The vision for D.light from the very beginning was to make a huge impact in individual lives on a global scale,” said D.light co-founder and CEO Sam Goldman. “We are extremely pleased that one million individual people in the world now have access to a brighter future because of D.light’s products, which positively affect a household’s income, economic potential, and health.”

The benefits of solar lighting for off-grid families have been well documented. The U.N. Development Program reports that bright, reliable lighting can increase productivity for families in developing countries, leading to household income gains of 15 to 30 percent. D.light customers have reported that children’s study time increases by a factor of 2 to 4 times after purchasing a solar lantern, resulting in improved test scores. In addition, each kerosene lantern that is no longer used removes 0.5 to 1 ton of carbon emissions from the world’s atmosphere.

The milestone also validates D.light’s standing as one of the world’s fastest-growing social enterprises. The company has thus far successfully combined key components of a more traditional business model, such as venture capital investment and a high-growth strategy, with a strong, focused social mission. This positions D.light to scale up at the level and pace needed to meet the very high demand for quality, affordable solar consumer products around the world.

“We know that this is only the start,” said D.light co-founder and President Ned Tozun. “D.light has to continue to design innovative and affordable products, as well as push the envelope in rural distribution, in order to get us closer to serving the billions of people with limited or no access to electricity. We are committed to reaching every single one of those households in the years to come.”

Currently the company’s solar product line includes the Nova Series, the Solata, and the Kiran, the world’s most affordable quality solar lantern. D.light is planning to release additional solar products this year, and expects global sales to continue to grow at a rapid pace. The company’s goal is to impact 100 million lives by the end of 2020.

About D.light Design

D.light Design is an international consumer products company providing high quality solutions for people without access to reliable electricity. Our mission is to enable households without reliable electricity to attain the same quality of life as those with electricity. We will begin by replacing every kerosene lantern with clean, safe and bright light. By 2020, we aim to have improved the lives of 100 million individuals.

D.light was recently awarded the Social Venture Network 2009 Innovation Award, and named as one of the world's top 100 clean technology enterprises by the CleanTech Group. It has also been featured in Fortune Magazine, Time Magazine, BusinessWeek, and the New York Times. It is financed by prestigious venture capital firms including Nexus Venture Partners, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Garage Technology Ventures, the Mahindra Group; with investment from leading social enterprise funds Acumen Fund and Gray Matters Capital. To learn more, please visit www.dlightdesign.com.

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