Description
Northwest Fire District, a fire/safety service provider near Tucson, purchased and installed a Type 1 fire station flashing beacon package from Solar Traffic Controls.

The district recently built a new fire station close to an older one located past the crest of a hill with limited visibility to westbound motorists approaching the station. The district contacted STC to outline options for radio-linked beacons at the site to improve safety as the static signs already in place were deemed insufficient for the new site layout.

The district finally decided to purchase and install a Type 1 fire station flashing beacon system for their project with an STC Wall Mount Transmitter package and one handheld transmitter.

When the trucks are ready to exit the station, the crew hits the mushroom switch on the Wall Mount Transmitter on their way into the bay and the beacon units, both in advance of the driveway about 350-feet, activate and start flashing.

Each pole consists of a 15-foot spun aluminum pole kit with two 12-inch amber DC LED lamps (STC model G2C), a 36-inch W11-8 sign, a custom sign "BE PREPARED TO STOP WHEN FLASHING" a clear confirmation strobe and XSR power system. The clear confirmation strobe is included to alert the fire truck drivers that the unit has received its radio signal and is flashing.

Installation of the equipment was completed quickly once approval was given. With the radio link and solar-powered beacons there was no need to trench from the station to the beacons thus saving time and money. Joe Wise and Jimmie Dixon of STC provided on-site supervision to the installation crew provided by P.A.C.E. Electric of Tucson.
Take these steps to insure the success of your solar-powered project:
1. Location - identify the site of the application; for example, the nearest town, village or city and state.
2. Load - specify the number and size of lamps, timers or other controls (anything which draws power).
3. Duty Cycle - determine how many hours per day and which days per week the load will be drawing power.

Go to "Send us your requirements" at www.SolarTrafficControls.com/support/requirements.php for more details.

Solar Power: a free source of energy
STC's solar-powered systems are designed for quick and easy installation in the field. Our careful front-end engineering minimizes your installation costs and provides years of trouble-free operation. The standard solar power system includes the solar array, system enclosure with all the necessary electronics, color-coded wiring harnesses, sealed batteries and full documentation. DC LED lamp kits can also be purchased. These include the LED beacon, lamp housing and mounting hardware.

STC Systems are Cost Effective
Our solar flasher systems allow you to stretch your budget to obtain the traffic safety devices you need at affordable prices. Most systems are equivalent to the cost of obtaining an AC power drop. Battery life is typically three to six years; less expensive than grid electricity for the same period of time.

Solar Traffic Controls (STC) provides solar-powered traffic control systems for city, state and federal DOTs; police, firefighting and public works departments; facility maintenance and plant safety industries. Our primary products are solar-powered flashing beacon systems used for school zones and 24-hour applications. We also supply specialized flasher systems using environmental sensors and custom communications packages to control the flashing beacon systems. Our product spectrum also includes wireless power systems for ITS, EMS and HAR. STC's products and services are sold through a network of regional distributors who offer technical support for your project.