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Nitze-Stagen invests in NEXT Lighting firm

By [JOURNAL STAFF](#)

Nitze-Stagen Capital Partners announced on Monday that the venture capital firm is helping to launch NEXT Lighting Corp., which designs LED lighting, in the Northwest market.

NEXT Lighting was founded in 2009 in San Francisco and says it holds several patents for an “indirect linear architecture” that provides glare-free light that is up to 50 percent more efficient and lasts three times longer than standard fluorescent lights.

Nitze-Stagen will bring NEXT Lighting products into this market. They will be manufactured by Woodinville-based Cashmere Molding.



Peter Nitze

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The company's 10-person sales and marketing staff will work at Seattle's Starbucks Center.

NEXT Lighting also offers a line of controls and power supplies that adjusts lights in response to changing natural conditions.

The firm is working with several Seattle companies to put LEDs in offices, distribution centers, data centers, parking garages and stores. Its lighting has also been installed at Metro RapidRide bus stops.

The size of Nitze-Stagen's investment in NEXT was not disclosed.

Nitze-Stagen Capital Partners is a new venture capital firm headed by Peter Nitze, chairman of the Seattle real estate development firm Nitze-Stagen & Co. Its sister company, Daniels Real Estate, is also an investor in NEXT.

Nitze told the DJC in February that its initial investments are expected to fall between \$1 million to \$2 million, and that the firm would like to make three or four such investments in the first 12 to 18 months. The firm is focusing on Seattle-based startups that provide sustainable products and services used in the building industry.