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Growing Auburn lighting company to build bigger space



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Buoyed by strong business demand for LED lighting systems, an Auburn-based lighting and electrical firm is looking to shine its light, metaphorically speaking, over a bigger space.

By year's end, Century Lighting and Electric is planning to have established the first of two new industrial buildings for expansion at the Airport Business Park in Auburn.

Owner [Keith Estes](#) said his company is in part of a 35,000-square-foot complex now next to the site of the future buildings, but doesn't plan to leave any of that space behind.

"We're really in need of extra space," said Estes. Among other contracts, his company recently completed an LED lighting system for the Port of Benicia, a busy import destination for ships carrying foreign cars.

The first building Century plans to put up will be 6,200 square feet and should be done by late fall, while the second, 8,400 square feet, should be built by about the middle of next year. Estes said his company will lease whatever space it can't fill, but eventually plans to completely occupy both buildings.

"Because the buildings can be divided into smaller spaces, I think we won't have any problems leasing them," he said. "I'm confident."

Century also has a number of a smaller satellite operations around the region, servicing more than 2,000 sites with monthly maintenance contracts. Estes said the Auburn site has most of the office and service vehicle parts of the operation, and will continue to serve as a hub for the company, which specializes in outdoor commercial lighting.

Ben van der Meer covers real estate, development, local and regional planning,

construction, transportation, agriculture and water for the Sacramento Business Journal.