

Optimising Power @ Work Ireland



Description of the programme/ measure

Optimising Power @ Work is a large-scale behavioural change campaign operating in over 270 large Central Government Buildings in Ireland.

The programme is funded by Central Government.

The campaign originally commenced in 2008.

The campaign relies on 3 fundamentals:

- 1) Technology – installation of energy monitoring equipment
- 2) Specialist Resources – application of adequate and suitable specialist resources (energy consultants)
- 3) Energy Teams – establishing suitable active energy teams in each participating building

Annual average energy savings of 20.4% are currently being achieved.

Critical success factors

- a) Senior Management Buy-In
- b) High-level of engagement with the campaign from all levels within the organisation that occupies the particular building

Innovation

The main difference between *Optimising Power @ Work* and other behavioural change energy campaigns is that:

- a) before the programme commences in a building we install energy monitoring equipment.
- b) Energy consultants continually work with energy teams in each building to identify savings and constantly monitor progress against targets

Key achievements

Over 270 large Central Government buildings actively participating in the campaign.

Average annual energy savings of 20.4% currently being achieved (Sept 2015).

Approximate annual cost savings of €4.9M

Programme now being expanded into the wider public sector.

Lesson learned

The key to the success of the programme is:

- A) Installation energy monitoring equipment before the campaign commences
- B) Setting up energy teams of key stakeholders in each building
- C) Applying suitable and adequate specialist resources (energy consultants) to work with the energy teams on a very regular basis to identify areas where energy can be saved
- D) Monitoring savings against targets and regular reporting of progress to the energy teams.



Final comments

- The success of *Optimising Power @ Work* in Central Government buildings has led to €9M additional funding being made available to expand the programme into the wider public sector in Ireland.
- The campaign is currently being rolled-out into Hospitals, Universities, Prisons, Local Authorities, etc.

Further information

- <http://www.opw.ie/en/about/sustainability/>

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