



Tips For Energy Efficiency

Being energy efficient means using less energy (electricity, gas, fuel) to provide the same level of service, and it can save you money. Here's some tips to get you started.

ASSESS AND MEASURE

Think about how, where and when your business uses energy. Consult with staff to identify ways that energy consumption could be reduced.

Check utility bills to see how much energy you use, and monitor these over time to see how energy use patterns change, and how and when you might be able to make changes. Don't forget to take into consideration workloads and busy periods, as energy consumption may change depending on workload.

You might like to consider using the services of a professional who can analyse energy consumption on your behalf and recommend areas for improvement. This can be a valuable exercise, as they have exposure to many businesses and experience offering cost effective solutions.

AVOID AND REDUCE ENERGY CONSUMPTION

There are many practical ways in which your business can minimise energy consumption to improve efficiency and your bottom line. Start by looking at the following options:

- Many electronic devices (such as computers and TVs) draw power when in standby mode, so it's better to switch them off at the power point whenever possible (i.e. after hours) to avoid 'electricity leaks'.
- Purchase energy efficient equipment. Look for the higher star rating on the items you purchase. These typically use less electricity - good for the environment and business expenses.
- Consider lighting options. Light emitting diodes (LEDs) and compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) use less power and last longer than traditional incandescent lamps. Automatic light settings can help reduce energy use. Also consider how

much lighting you need – could some lights be switched off or removed, or could you use natural light.

- Complete regular and systematic checks on equipment such as compressors and hoses to ensure there are no leaks.
- Check temperature settings to avoid using excess energy: set fridges between 3°C and 5°C and freezers between -15°C and -18°C; set air conditioners at 24°C or warmer in summer and 18°C or cooler in winter.
- If you are considering investing in solar power, it's a good idea to check energy efficiency first. That way, you can help to ensure any power used is going to the most effective and efficient use, rather than using solar power for wasteful activities.

GRANT INFORMATION

Visit www.business.gov.au/Assistance or www.grantassist.sa.gov.au to search for available grants that could support your business to become more energy efficient.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Federal Government has created a factsheet with further information about energy management. To view this information, please go to www.business.gov.au/Info/Run/Energy-management.

The MTA is dedicated to assisting with all your environmental needs including which business may be able to assist you with your environmental requirements. If you have any queries, please contact the MTA on environmental@mta-sa.asn.au.

To further improve your business's environmental performance, the Green Stamp accreditation has been specifically developed for the automotive industry, for more information contact the WR team on 8291 2000.

