



AUSTRALIAN HOTELS
ASSOCIATION

INTRODUCTION TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY ENERGY EFFICIENCY FACT SHEET



Australian Government
Department of Industry

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INTRODUCTION TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY



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Controlling energy costs is an increasingly important part of managing a hotel. Not only are rising energy costs driving many business owners to search for new ways to reduce energy use, there is also a greater desire for businesses to reduce their environmental footprint.

WHAT IS ENERGY EFFICIENCY?

Energy efficiency is the extent to which energy is used effectively in your business to deliver products and services to your customers. By becoming energy efficient you avoid unnecessary consumption of energy.

Achieving energy efficiency in your business will involve a number of activities such as behaviour change, which may or may not be coupled with smarter equipment choices and use. Understanding how and where you use energy is an important first step, more important than just buying new equipment that consumes less power.

WHERE ENERGY IS USED IN YOUR BUSINESS

Energy is used across your whole business to provide products and services to your patrons and guests.

Typical energy consumption in hotels is spread relatively evenly into a number of uses including kitchens, heating, cooling and lighting. The total energy used in an average hotel is represented in Figure 1.

Figures 2 and 3 show a typical further breakdown in energy use from electricity and gas (natural and LPG).

Using these breakdowns and reviewing the total cost of energy

from your bills will give you an idea of costs across the different areas of your business.

It is important to acknowledge that not only is energy used within your own business, it is consumed along the whole supply chain in the supply of materials, services and goods that you use. Your upstream supply chain consists of your suppliers, wholesalers, distribution centres, and transportation companies that deliver products to you. Your downstream supply chain includes your patrons/guests, and your waste processors, to name a few.

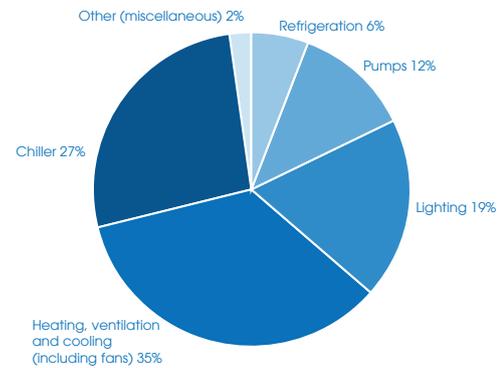


Figure 2: Breakdown of average hotel electricity use
Energy Wise Hotels Toolkit (p9), City of Melbourne, December 2007

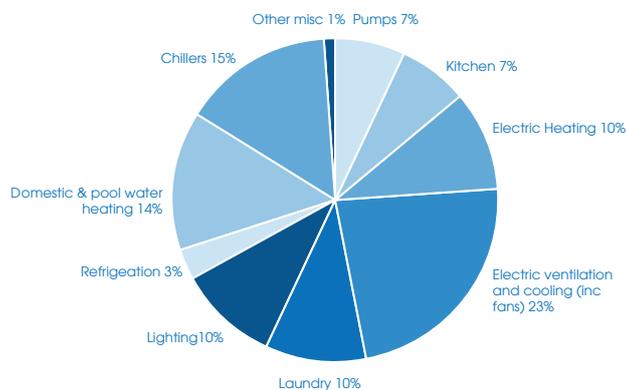


Figure 1: Breakdown of average hotel energy use.
Energy Wise Hotels Toolkit (p9), City of Melbourne, December 2007

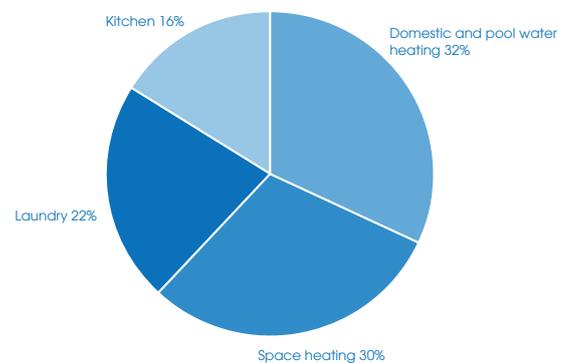


Figure 3: Breakdown of average hotel gas use.
Energy Wise Hotels Toolkit (p9), City of Melbourne, December 2007

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WHY BEING ENERGY EFFICIENT IS IMPORTANT

By being more energy efficient you will:

- Save money on energy bills.
- Reduce your impact on the environment.
- Enhance your corporate reputation for protecting the environment.
- Gain better engagement with your staff, customers and service contractors.
- Reduce the need for costly government investment in energy infrastructure.

Reducing energy consumption also helps reduce the amount of greenhouse gases entering our atmosphere. Greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, have been identified to be responsible for causing climate change that affects our ability to live safely, grow and transport our food, and run our businesses.

HOW THE AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION IS HELPING YOU TO BECOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT

The Australian Hotels Association (AHA) has developed a suite of materials to help identify and implement simple, cost-effective ways of reducing energy costs associated with operating a hospitality business.

This has been achieved with funding from the Energy Efficiency Information Grants Program through the Australian Government.

The Hotel Energy Efficiency Program offers a series of case studies and relevant information that will assist any hospitality business to become more efficient in its energy use.

Just as any pub or hotel relies heavily on the performance of its employees to meet the demands of customers and drive patronage, the energy efficiency plan needs the support of your entire team in order to achieve the desired outcomes.

CONTENTS OF THE PROGRAM

The program consists of a number of fact sheets to help to you to understand how to plan for energy efficiencies including the development of an Energy Management System for your business.

It also includes information on understanding and reading your utility bills, stimulating behaviour change with your staff, patrons and guests and contractors and equipment energy efficiencies.

There is also a guide to renovations and building refurbishments and what to look out for when upgrading your buildings and further information on other resource use and waste management practices.

The AHA has also developed an energy efficiency induction

manual to assist you to induct management and operational staff, and contractors; on your organisations expectations in relation to the management of energy and energy efficiencies within your business.

The resources, tools and information available within the Program can be incorporated into day-to-day operations and factored into future capital expenditure budgets so that you can become more energy efficient.

EXAMPLES OF WHAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE THROUGH THE PROGRAM

By participating in the program you will learn:

- How to implement an organisational commitment to energy efficiency and communicate the commitment to all staff.
- The role of management, staff, patrons and guests and contractors in identifying and promoting energy efficiencies.
- How to read and understand your energy bills and where and how you can reduce costs.

The program will also assist you to identify simple changes to work procedures and practices including:

- Setting your heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment controls for more efficient operations.
- Equipment maintenance activities to ensure optimum energy efficiencies.
- Lighting control and management for efficiencies
- Efficient use and operations of other equipment

Follow these links to get started to understand about energy management and how your business can become more energy efficient:

- [Managing your Energy Use \(incorporating developing an Energy Management System\)](#)
- [Behaviour Change for Energy Efficiencies](#)
- [Understanding Energy Bills and Tariffs](#)
- [Energy Efficient Heating Ventilation and Air-conditioning Systems](#)
- [Energy Efficient Lighting](#)
- [Energy Efficient Refrigeration](#)
- [Other Equipment Energy Efficiencies](#)
- [Renovations and Refurbishments](#)
- [Resource Use and the Supply Chain](#)

To view these guides please visit www.aha.org.au/energy

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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

In response to rising energy costs the AHA has developed a range of targeted resources to assist small and medium businesses to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy costs.

These resources were developed with support in the form of an Energy Efficiency Information Grant from the Australian Government.

This program has been designed to assist small to medium businesses to understand where and how energy is used, carbon emissions that result from the use of energy, and to understand and communicate the opportunities for reduction and resource efficiencies.

The resources, tools and information available under the program identify energy efficiency improvements that can be incorporated into day-to-day operations and factored into future capital expenditure budget.

For more information please visit www.aha.org.au/energy