

The Night Hawks project - Night Walks: off production hours site inspections i.e. energy checks.

Energikontor Sydost [Sweden]

Context

Most managers and decision makers know that reducing costs can increase profit, but they do not realize that every day that passes without energy savings costs money. Some of them (both in shops, shopping centres and retail parks) have limited interest in energy efficiency because they do not see its economic potential. Therefore, it was important to show the concrete potential savings that exist in their premises.

The method of Night Walks was initiated by the Energy Agency for Southeast Sweden and has been developed and performed in collaboration between eight European partners (Sweden, Cyprus, Denmark, Italy, Latvia, France, United Kingdom). It can be adapted in small buildings and in larger premises – and not just limited to the retail sector.

Description and Main Objectives

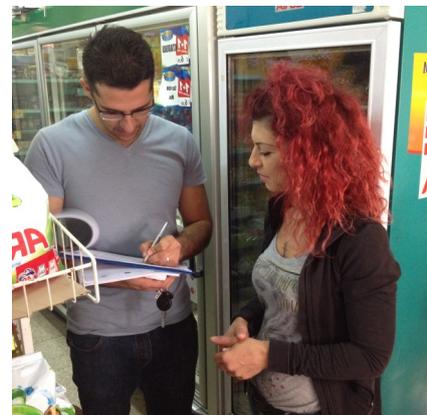
Night walks are on-site energy surveys held at times when businesses are closed to the public. Energy experts conduct the survey with a view to identifying areas of energy waste within a business, in order that a bespoke action plan can be produced and implemented so as to enable direct and significant energy savings. The project has raised awareness about energy efficiency in the retail industry.

The project main objectives were:

- To improve energy efficiency in shopping centres, retail parks and shops by introducing energy advice visits in late night visits;
- To kick start and train stakeholders to start their own energy efficiency work and how to priority energy efficiency measures from an economical and technical point of view. Training is another key to gain energy savings.



COOP Karlshamn. Photorigt: Energikontor Sydost L Eckerberg



Night Walk Photorigt: Stratagem



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Implementation Strategy

The core action was to perform a night walk: a Night Walk is an energy check of the site after hours (evening, night, morning, weekend), in order to spot potential energy losses - the energy used when it is not needed. It gives a snapshot of the conditions and energy use. Energy experts conduct the survey with a view to identifying areas of energy waste within a business, in order that a bespoke action plan can be produced and implemented so as to enable direct and significant energy savings. Before the night walk, a minimum of 12 months energy data - such as hours of use and management processes, including works that have taken place to already address the issue of energy waste - is analysed to help assess the levels of consumption at different times of the day, week, month and year.

The energy adviser checks following functions:

- Lighting – management and technical opportunities for improvements
- Heating and air condition– hours of use and levels of heat/cooling provided and cases of heating and cooling in the same area at the same time
- Ventilation – hours of use, and how this works with heating systems
- Electrical equipment – opportunity for time control, use of refrigeration and so on
- User behaviour

The main results were:

- The target “number of trained persons” were exceeded by 46%, in total 1523 persons were trained during 119 trainings. A rich training material is available online with a handbook, slides, mini-documentary, on line calculators, case studies and best practice;
- 1523 persons attended the trainings in total whereof 345 can be consider to be energy hunters;
- In total 123 Night Walks were performed. 75% of the participating shopping centres/shops/retail parks follows one of more energy advice given;
- On average the potential energy savings are around 10%. The energy savings, is generating a decreased based upon an emission factor for electricity is estimated to 13860 MWh/year which corresponds to 4135 tons of CO₂ emissions per year;
- Savings of 2,220,000 € per year for the participating companies.

Time Frame

Start date: 2014 - End date: 2015

Budget

The realistic investments for achieving shortest payback periods is € 0.9M and the planned target needed for all economically feasible energy efficiency measures is € 6M.

Contacts & Links

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