

School's out for inefficiency

Towards Class A - Shining examples

...are everywhere and in a town near you...

Introduction

Over eighty schools in the regional capital of Hanover, Tatort Büro, have volunteered to adopt an energy saving project focusing on delivering feasible energy saving measures.

The measures chosen have high standards over ease of implementation and must be able to be easily incorporated into the daily routine.

The main focus has been over the instillation of simple energy saving equipment such as efficient light fittings, connectors and water tanks. The schools have also attempted to nurture environmentally conscious user behaviour with more information on how to use efficient machinery and procedures, like sealing of windows and doors, which conserve energy by limiting heat loss.



Costs and Benefits

Over the last eleven years the project has delivered savings of approximately 450,000 Euros per annum. Outside of this financial aspect, the scheme has reduced CO2-Emissions while also improving comfort, as no over or under heated rooms, and helped provide energy saving principles and tips for students and teachers in their private life.



Education

Key to the scheme was the need to educate schools and other institutions about what measures they themselves could implement. This was achieved in Hanover with the use of 'Ecoteams' who visited the different institutions, and used information stands and demonstration models to show colleagues how to save energy and water, and reduce heating. Additionally, thermometers and energy saving light bulbs for desk lamps were distributed so staff could get used to them. The teams also provided blackboards so that staff could leave suggestions and comments regarding the project, and thus allow effective feedback and improvement.

Conclusion

With the use of simple but effective energy saving measures schools around this regional capital have been able to make huge financial savings while also helping to protect the environment. The project stands as a testament to the ability to cut buildings energy consumption by 10 % without any resulting loss in comfort. And because the buildings use and structure is typical of much of European municipalities there is significant potential for the scale of savings to replicated elsewhere.



Partners



Contact

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