



Energy Management Event

24th November 2011

The focus of this event was energy. Managing energy consumption is becoming increasingly important, it can help to reduce energy costs, reduce carbon emissions and improve your reputation.

Andy Whyte the chair of BESST introduced the event and welcomed all the speakers.



The event began with a presentation by Kirsty Burns, BESST co-ordinator, about the Re:Think energy grant scheme. This is a scheme where SMEs can obtain grant funding towards energy efficiency audits and/or renewable feasibility studies. Re:Think energy can help businesses to consider their energy usage, look into the possibility of generating their own energy and consequently make significant financial savings.



Paul Whittaker from BSi (British Standards Institution) gave a presentation on the systematic management of energy. He covered the basics of energy management and why it should be done- stating survey results that showed that the 3 most given reasons were; to reduce costs, for an impact on global climate and to improve reputation amongst customers. He gave details on the differences between energy management and environmental management systems, he also went into some depth about the ISO 50 001 standard. He said that ISO 50 001 is a distillation of best practice and that one of the key things for implementing an energy management system is to know your business well.

The second part of the main presentation was by Brian Haslam from Camfil who gave a case study of using ISO 50 001 and obtaining the ERV Kitemark. He started by giving an overview of Camfil's operations and describing how despite already having ISO 14 001 they could see that there would be significant gains to be made from implementing an energy management system. They started by



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putting a basic energy management measuring system in place, picking the low hanging fruit and engaging staff. They then set targets, publicised their progress amongst staff and formalised the energy management system. There have been substantial business benefits to implementing the standard; savings in electricity use of 7 – 14% have been made each year since 2009 and 24-35% for the same period for gas.



Following a short break for networking and refreshments John Barraclough from Sustainability



West Midlands gave a presentation titled “weathering the storm: making money in a changing climate”. He outlined what weather conditions we can expect in the future and the business impacts of these. The impacts on different areas of business were examined as were the potential opportunities that could arise. John said that the key message of his presentation for businesses was that those who have a business continuity plan should revisit the

impact of weather.

Delegates left the event feeling well informed on energy management with some ideas of actions that they could take for the benefit of their business.

All of the presentations delivered at the event can be viewed in the download library
For further information on any of the environmental topics discussed please contact the BESST
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