Thales UK Training and Simulation in Crawley came second in the Sustainable Manufacturing category of the annual Manufacturer Awards towards the end of 2008. These prestigious awards recognise a company’s progress in cutting energy consumption and reducing its carbon footprint.

Thales Simulation (TTSL) won the local environment business award organised by Crawley Borough Council and sponsored by EDF Energy in early 2008. TTSL made savings in many areas through good environmental practice. Through a new simulator and motion system they used 80% less energy, 10% of the hydraulic oil, and biodegradable synthetic oil rather than mineral oil compared to the previous model.

TTSL also made large reductions in gas, water and paper purchased, as well as increasing cardboard recycling.

Aerospace Crawley spends £38,000 less on electricity every year and produces 382 fewer tonnes of CO2 per annum.

Weybridge: All of Thales UK can reduce their energy consumption with just the simplest measures. One office, with no heavy machinery or catering facilities has made huge energy savings.

The office at Weybridge has just over 100 full-time staff and in 2008 electricity consumption was reduced by 34% and gas consumption reduced by 63% on the previous years figures. How was this done? Simply by optimising heating and lighting and getting employees to switch off their equipment. This led to a saving of nearly £18,000 a year for a single site.

Templecombe (Thales Underwater Systems): The system for submetering electricity and oil consumption at Templecombe has now been installed, and is currently being commissioned. This will allow us to see exactly where and when all our energy is being used, by either viewing the submeters in “real time” or by inspecting logged data. The submetering is the first step towards a more comprehensive site energy management system.

Poseidon Building Management Systems (BMS) Thales Underwater Systems

Poseidon House utilities reports showed that small tweaks to the Building Management System (BMS) had adverse affects on the Electricity & Gas consumption.

Severn Controls were brought in to investigate & re-commission the system. The system had not been commissioning properly when the building was built in 2004 (probably due to the builders going bust). Severn Controls found problems, repaired these and made several improvement changes:

• 50% of the heating & cooling system valve actuators were defective (damaged by incorrect set up) – hence the desired temperature could not be delivered.
• Return air temperature sensors were found to be measuring the supply air temperature.
• Poor set up resulted in adjacent units fighting each other e.g. one on full heat whilst its neighbour was on full cooling.
• Air entering the building was pre-heated, even in summer, and then cooled at a later stage.
Case study: Energy

- New controller fitted to allow the labs to be on separate zones (saving the whole floor being on when cooling required in the lab)
- Fan speeds reduced by 25% saving energy & reducing drafts
- ‘Trend’ Software update added to take account of external temperatures – optimisation.

As a result of re-commissioning the BMS consumption savings of 9% Electricity and 36% Gas were achieved in the first 5 months of 2009.

Dolphine House BMS


Dolphine House had separate cooling and heating systems and the BMS prevents the Air Conditioning System working at the same time at the Heating system. During the installation it was found that 7 of the Heating system diverter valves were stuck open i.e. the Heating could not be turned off in separate areas.

Awareness and Energy Saving at Thales Underwater Systems

- Energy Saving Suggestion Scheme
- Staff were asked to come up with energy saving ideas via way of a competition.
- Contributors of the best suggestion won energy saving gadgets.
  1st Prize
- Use energy monitor to analyze where the most energy is being used & then target the biggest possible savings first.
- An energy analyzer is now being used to monitor various equipment.
  2nd Prize
- Reduce the number of fluorescent tubes, especially near windows.
- We have established that an intelligent lighting system was installed in Poseidon but this needs re-configuring to switch off light units near the windows when the sun is shining.
  3rd Prize
- Reduce PC default stand by settings + name & shame those leaving PCs on.

- A program has been produced to check on how many PCs are left on overnight.
- All the ideas received were rated, prioritised and those felt to be feasible put on a plan of action for future implementation.

For further Information:

Contact Info here
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