

ASHE's Energy Efficiency Commitment

INITIATIVE

Gain Control Over Your Energy Consumption

Rising energy costs are back. A survey of over 700 hospitals conducted by ASHE and *Health Facilities Management Magazine* in July reported that 90 percent of the respondents noted an increase in energy costs, while 15 percent saw prices climb more than 25 percent since last year. And hospitals aren't the only ones feeling the pinch. Many utility companies were trying to meet power demand last summer when a heat wave swept through the country. The 13-state mid-Atlantic region shattered its one-day record high consuming 139,746 megawatts (MW) of electricity. California used 46,561 MW of power one day in July, breaking last year's one-day record high of 45,431 MW.

Recommitting to energy efficiency in our healthcare facilities will lower costs and help reduce straining the capacity of our local electric grids. Many of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR® healthcare partners have shown that gains in energy efficiency of 10 to 30 percent above present levels are feasible through operational best practices and the use of available technologies. For example, St. Francis Hospital in Marysville, MO and Shriners Hospital in Houston, TX show that large gains in efficiency can be made in as little as one year (see July/Aug 2006 edition of *Inside ASHE*).

That's why 2006 ASHE President Bill Morgan announced a new initiative called Energy Efficiency Commitment (or E²C) at the Annual Conference in Boston last July. ASHE believes there are facility managers throughout the country who have the ability to tenaciously pursue energy waste and turn it into the gold of energy savings. ASHE created E²C to bring everyone together to share best practices, to learn from successes (and failures), and be recognized for the progress made in energy management. Many hospitals have already done the "big things" to increase energy performance. But as facility director Delbert Reed says, "Until you look, you'd



be amazed at how many of the little things you walk by everyday" that add up to significant savings.

Educational Programs


An energy educational program is being developed now and will be made available in 2007 at no charge to ASHE members. The resources that will be made available will include:

- A list of faculty members who are available to present these programs
- eLearning presentations on reducing energy consumption in hospitals. Case studies of top performing hospitals will be highlighted in each presentation.
- A description of methods that hospitals have successfully used to reduce energy consumption
- A model for preparing a business plan for implementing energy conservation and cost reduction projects and processes
- Peer-to-peer networking exchanges between participants

ASHE will promote E²C through the ASHE website, ASH*E*Flash, *Inside ASHE*, and at the ASHE PDC and Annual Conferences.

Recognition Opportunities

At various times during the year, ASHE will recognize members that achieve at least a 10% energy savings in their hospitals or medical office buildings by employing demand-side efficiency measures. Qualifying facilities may be eligible to earn the ENERGY STAR from the U.S. EPA.

To receive credit for past efficiency upgrades, hospitals can baseline back 5 years from when they begin to participate in E²C. 

Show Your Commitment

To join the E²C initiative, begin tracking your energy use by setting up an account within Portfolio Manager, a free internet-based tool used in the EPA's ENERGY STAR program.

Login to Portfolio Manager

Go to www.energystar.gov/benchmark and login to Portfolio Manager. Click the "New User" link and create a password-protected account, if you do not already have one. Enter your building information and begin tracking energy performance (or update your account if you already have one). For more information on how to use Portfolio Manager, you may attend a free online training at energystar.webex.com or take the Portfolio Manager Tour once you've established your account in Portfolio Manager.

Share your facility with ASHE

Sharing "read only" rights with ASHE is strictly confidential. Only ASHE staff supporting the program will be able to access your data.

From the "My Portfolio" page, choose "Share Facilities".

Step 1. From the drop down menu labeled "Select a Master Account", select "American Society for Healthcare Engineering ASHE_E²C". Click **CONTINUE**.

Step 2. Select the appropriate access role, ability to set baseline, and any additional rights you want to grant the user. We recommend "Read Only" access.

Step 3. Choose the appropriate Facility Group within the ASHE account. Facility Groups include ASHE Chapters. Click **CONTINUE**.

Note: To further ease sharing and tracking of facilities within Portfolio Manager, ASHE created chapter groups within the ASHE Account into which your facility can be shared directly.

Step 4. Select your facility to share with the ASHE Master Account. Click **CONTINUE**.

Step 5. Confirm that all access changes are correct. Review the list of facilities shared and access rights granted. If you need to make changes, you may return to the previous screen(s) by selecting **CANCEL**.

Once you have reviewed the changes, click **SAVE**.

Set a Baseline Period

On the Facility Summary page, next to Facility Performance, select **Set Baseline Period**. Choose to set the baseline yourself or let Portfolio Manager automatically determine the

baseline period. Portfolio Manager will automatically identify your earliest eligible 12-month period and set it for you. Click **SAVE**.

By going through this process, you will be able to compare the baseline rating of your facility against your current rating.

Set Energy Performance Target

On the Facility Summary page, next to Facility Performance, select **Set Energy Performance Target**. Set your target based on a rating goal (on the left side of the table) or by a percent reduction goal (on the right side of the table).

ASHE E²C recognizes hospitals and medical office buildings with 10% or more improvement over the past five years. This means you can input historical data and set your baseline period as far back as 2002.

Click **RECALCULATE**. When you are done with setting your target, Click **SAVE**.

Receiving your performance rating is just the first step. It will tell you how your facility compares to its peers nationwide on a scale from 1 to 100. The industry average is 50. Your Portfolio Manager account will also tell you how much energy has been saved since 2002, or whatever year you use as a baseline.

Participating in E²C means joining your peers in your commitment to save energy, reduce costs, and protect the environment. You will be notified of training seminars and peer-to-peer exchanges in the coming months. For more info on E²C, including case studies of energy savings by these and other health care facilities, visit www.ashe.org/ashe/facilities/e2c or contact Tim Adams, ASHE Director Engineering and Compliance, by email at tadams@aha.org or by phone at 312.422.3804.

Clark Reed is the National Healthcare Manager for ENERGY STAR at the U.S. EPA. Last year, ENERGY STAR helped Americans save energy equivalent to 4% of total 2005 energy demand, reducing greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to that of 23 million cars – all while saving consumers \$12 billion. To join, visit ENERGY STAR's website or contact the author at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – MC 6202J, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, D.C. 20460. Email: reed.clark@epa.gov Phone: 202-343-9146.

First E²C Award Recipients

ASHE awarded the first E²C certificates in October 2006 to recognize reductions in energy consumption. The awardees and their energy reductions are: Delbert Reed, Shriners Hospitals for Children, Houston, TX (34%); Bill McCully, Northwest Medical Center, Springdale, AK (13%); Ronny Gann, West Jefferson Medical Center, Marrero, LA (10%); Gary Thompson, St. Francis Hospital & Health Services, Maryville, MO (13%); Roger Neifert, Yuma Regional Medical Center, Yuma, AZ (17%); Jennifer Kearney, New York-Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY (10%-40% in four medical facilities).