



**ENERGY EFFICIENCY**  
**BARS & RESTAURANTS**



## Your chance to reduce your business energy usage by as much as 20%!

20% is a significant figure and reducing your energy bill by this amount could make a real change to your bottom line. By identifying where you can save and implementing the measures to realise those savings, you will be well on the way to achieving optimum energy efficiency in your business. At Energia, our aim is to help businesses use energy efficiency measures to achieve greater success.

Energy Efficiency simply means using less energy to perform the same function. Reducing your energy usage is achievable. Energia is committed to providing you with the right energy solutions for your business. This brochure is designed to help you see where your business can save and if you need any further assistance, our energy efficiency team are always here to help.

**Contact us on 1850 36 37 44 or email [energy.efficiency@energia.ie](mailto:energy.efficiency@energia.ie)**

**“Energy Efficiency simply means using less energy to perform the same function.”**



**“ Purchase  
equipment with  
its running costs  
in mind.”**

## **Kitchens**

Kitchens consume large amounts of energy and can be one of the highest areas of waste. As approximately only 40% of the energy consumed is used in the preparation and storage of food, effective energy management can provide substantial savings.

- Equipment should be switched off or turned down when it is not required. Create a culture where grills, fryers and hobs are switched off immediately after use.
- Maintain and clean the equipment regularly. Seals and gaskets should be checked weekly to ensure the correct fit.
- Gas burners should be checked for a blue flame and efficient burning.
- Never use catering equipment to warm the kitchen. This is the job of the building's heating system.
- Purchase equipment with its running costs in mind. Always consider the energy used over the lifetime of the product, not just on capital cost.
- Equipment that automatically switches off can save up to 25% on energy costs



## Refrigeration

Refrigeration can be a significant energy user in the hospitality industry. Regular maintenance and some simple measures may help reduce energy usage.

- Refrigeration equipment may gradually use more energy and break down if not properly maintained. A simple maintenance schedule may save on energy costs.
- Ensure defrost procedures are followed and door seals on cold rooms, freezers and fridges are checked and replaced if damaged.
- Condensers and evaporator coils should be kept clean and free from dust, and the system should have the correct amount of refrigerant.
- Products such as canned drinks do not need to be in the refrigerator cabinet at all times. Store them in a cool place and put them in chilled cabinets only as required as per the manufacturers guidelines.

**“ Condensers and evaporator coils should be kept clean and free from dust.”**





“ Fridges should be fitted with a switch, allowing lighting to be turned off.”



## Refrigeration

### Top-loaders & front-loaders:

- Fridges used to cool produce, which is NOT regulated by HACCP, can have *timers* installed. The timers are set to turn the units off **after** closing & restocking and turned back on about an hour prior to opening.
- This will reduce operating costs for these units by around 20% / 25% approx.
- Fridges should be fitted with a switch, allowing the lighting to be turned off when the area is not in service.



## Refrigeration

*Over-stocking* is an issue more commonly discovered in top-loaders.

This occurs where stock is filled above the manufacturers recommended packing lines, causing the cooled air to fall out of the refrigeration units.

Incidences of *blocked refrigerator coils* are also common-place. Each incident has been shown to reduce a refrigeration unit's energy efficiency by 2%.

**“Overstocking is an issue more commonly discovered in top-loaders.”**





“ Promote a ‘Switch Off’ policy in your business.”



## Lighting

Lighting costs may be **reduced by as much as 50%** with simple energy efficiency measures.

- Install low energy lighting by replacing standard light bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps/LEDs. **This uses up to 75% less energy.**
- Promote a “Switch Off” policy. Lights should be switched off or dimmed in unoccupied areas.
- Clearly label light switches to help employees only select the lights they need.
- Regular lighting maintenance is essential. Keep windows, skylights and light fittings clean and light levels will be maintained.
- Ensure timers are set to match trading hours and occupancy/dimming sensors are clean and operational.
- Install occupancy sensors to ensure lighting only operates when someone is present and achieve **savings of up to 30%.**
- Control lighting with light sensors and optimise natural daylight.



## Heating

Heating costs may be reduced by **up to 1/3** by simply maintaining appropriate temperatures and using appropriate heating equipment and controls.

- Reducing the temperature by 1°C may **cut up to 10% off your heating costs.**
- Turn heating off in unoccupied areas.
- Take account of the outside temperature and adjust heating levels accordingly. A multi programmable switch will accommodate varying requirements during the day.
- Location of thermostats is vital to efficiencies in heating systems. Thermostats should not be influenced by sunlight, radiators or draughts. Regular checks will ensure that they are working correctly.
- Thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) control the heat output from radiators and can contribute to savings.

**“ Reducing the temperature by 1°C may cut up to 10% off your heating costs.”**







**“ Avoid operating heating and cooling systems at the same time.”**



## Ventilation & Air Conditioning

Preventing unnecessary air loss reduces energy consumption and saves costs. If hot or cool air escapes through doors, windows, the fabric of the building or the ventilation system energy is wasted.

- Ensure ventilation and cooling systems are set correctly and consistent with the occupancy in the building.
- Minimise the cooling requirement by reducing the amount of heat from other sources such as sunlight, equipment, artificial light and vending machines.
- Maintaining systems is essential as energy consumption may increase with dirt collecting in air ducts, fans and components.
- Avoid operating heating and cooling systems at the same time and set a temperature 'dead zone' which is a gap between the temperatures at which the heating/cooling cut in.
- Recover heat from exhaust air by recirculating some of the exhaust air with fresh air. This combination can be controlled using an indoor air quality sensor.



## Insulation

Approximately 50% of the heat is lost from buildings through walls, floors and ceilings. Improving this loss will result in lower energy costs.

- Insulate, Insulate, Insulate! Ensure all external walls, roof spaces and hot water pipes are insulated and check the condition of the insulation regularly.
- Maintaining buildings and dealing with issues around gaps and holes quickly will save energy.
- Check regularly for damp as it may cause significant damage to insulation properties.
- Keep the heat in! Ensure windows and doors are closed, close curtains and blinds at the end of the day in winter.
- Improve window glazing. Double glazing is now standard and triple glazing is recommended for north facing walls.

**“ Ensure windows and doors are closed, close curtains and blinds.”**





**“ Hot water at the optimum temperature of 60°C will save energy.”**



## Water

Maintain hot water at the optimum temperature of 60°C which will save energy.

- Hot water tanks should be insulated with a 75mm or 3 inches thick BS Kitemarked insulating jacket. This measure may save up to 30% on your heating costs.
- Insulating all cold and hot water pipes especially those between the boiler and the hot water cylinder.

Also consider the following water saving devices:

- Tap controls switch taps off after a certain time.
- Spray taps reduce the volume of water used.
- Urinal/Toilet flush controls.



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