GUIDE TO COMMERCIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Australia's commercial buildings are some of the biggest consumers of electricity in the country. This is quite understandable when you consider the lighting, heating/cooling and equipment which are used for hours on end on a daily basis.

In recent years there has been a trend towards green commercial buildings. This trend has coincided with figures showing that green commercial building have higher tenant retention, faster lease-up periods and higher returns for investors. Studies have also shown that employees are more productive and happier when working in a healthy environment.

While there are a number of measures that can be taken to make a commercial building more energy efficient, the list below outlines what an EcoSmart Electrician can do to assist a building owner or manager.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT

The key to making the most of any energy efficient measures is the capability to manage the technology that has been utilized. This often requires some sort of energy management system which can regulate everything from the heating/cooling through to the lighting. It also assists the building manager to know where and when electricity is being used. One way to do this could be to install sub-metering.

LIGHTING

For the average commercial building, lighting can account for more than 60% of its energy costs. Lighting also provides the best opportunity for a business to reduce its electricity bill. A combination of energy efficient lighting, lighting controls such a sensors and effective use of daylight can dramatically reduce a business's energy costs.

DATA SERVER/SERVER ROOM

IT servers and storage devices are energy intensive and generate significant heat. The key to making sure your sever room is cooled efficiently is through the use of extraction fans or water cooled racks. An alternative could be to house the computer server at an external location such as a data centre.

ENERGY EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT

Office equipment such as computers, monitors and copiers/printer account for 85% - 95% of office equipment energy costs. Investment in energy efficient office equipment can go a long way to reducing a business's electricity bill.

Source: http://www.ecosmartelectricians.com.au/index.php?page=alias-6