



How BSI's new Kitemark® Energy Reduction Verification scheme helps first global customer save over 14% of annual energy costs

Customer needs

- Better understand the political, legislative, economic and environmental issues facing building owners
- Implement countrywide best practice in relation to energy management
- Reduce energy costs using a structured framework and approach
- Ensure corporate readiness for the demands of the Carbon Reduction Commitment scheme and other impending legislation

Customer benefits

- Financial savings of approximately £200,000 over two years
- Tangible reduction in energy consumption
- Recognition as a seriously sustainable company, operating to best practice
- Creation of a formalised energy policy and objectives
- Establishment of an energy-aware culture and a corporate ethos of continuous improvement

"Independent certification will 'rubber stamp' us as a trustworthy and truly sustainable business which hugely benefits the industry we work in. Since a core part of Camfil's business is selling energy saving filters we felt it was crucial for the organisation to be seen to be practising what it preaches!"

Bill Wilkinson
Managing Director



Customer background

Camfil Farr is the world leader in air filtration and clean air solutions.

The company differs from competitors in its approach, producing products that can deliver a tangible reduction in energy consumption and carbon emissions.

One of the company's key goals is to educate property managers and building owners about the substantial financial and quality opportunities that exist by simply replacing their existing air filters with low energy alternatives.

Why certification

Camfil Farr gained certification to the environmental management system standard ISO 14001 in 2000. Through the continued application of careful energy management, robust monitoring and measurement of energy consumption and waste streams, Camfil Farr has continued the journey and led by example by being the first UK manufacturing company to achieve certification to the energy management system standard BS EN 16001 in July 2010. More recently Camfil Farr has become the first organisation in the world to be awarded the BSI's Kitemark in Energy Reduction Verification (ERV).

Implementation

The company started by interrogating its own energy usage at the manufacturing facility in Haslingden. Considerations included: rising and unstable energy costs; increasing legislation; mandatory air conditioning inspections; Carbon Reduction Commitment readiness; and government drives to reduce energy consumption.

In 2006, Camfil Farr commissioned the Carbon Trust to complete a report on the organisation's energy usage. The findings

of the report enabled the company to identify priority areas based on the principle of 'least effort, biggest reward'. With a list of potential energy saving actions identified, the management team quickly actioned a number of 'quick win' initiatives, known internally as JDI's – 'Just Do Its!'

Camfil Farr recognised that to significantly reduce energy consumption it would need to engage every member of the organisation. As a result the company launched a corporate energy reduction employee engagement scheme called CEASE (Camfil Energy Awareness Saves Environment).

An incentive scheme was set up rewarding individuals and teams who suggested ideas and processes that would reduce energy consumption. "Energy saving has since become an integral part of employees' jobs, with positive attitudes reaping financial benefits on both a company and personal level," says Bill Wilkinson, Managing Director. "As part of the initiative, we hold an annual 'Sustainability Week' during which employees are encouraged to consider their working environment and practices and make suggestions that could lead to further energy savings."

With a culture of energy awareness already apparent throughout the business, the transition from BS EN 14001 (environmental management) to BS EN 16001 (energy management) was relatively straightforward and the company played an active role in the development and trial of BSI's new certification scheme for BS EN 16001.

"The implementation of an energy management system has been easier than we thought it would be," says Wilkinson. "To date we have seen significant cost savings and a reduction in CO₂ emissions with minimal capital outlay.

"By establishing a base-line and measuring against pre-agreed factors we have been able to develop a culture of continuous improvement which fits perfectly with our lean manufacturing model."

As part of this ongoing corporate energy reduction strategy, and in order to comply with the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme, Camfil Farr was audited by BSI and awarded certification to BSI's new Kitemark Energy Reduction Verification scheme. Since the scheme requires two full fiscal years of data to be available before an audit can take place, a smooth transition to Kitemark ERV certification took less than six months from joining the pilot scheme, since the majority of the proof mechanisms required were already available and appropriate and existing data collection activities were simply refined.

Benefits of working with BSI

"The ERV Kitemark is an externally recognised verification that we have saved over 14 per cent on energy in the current compliance year and also demonstrates to our stakeholders that we practice what we preach," says Wilkinson. "BSI has put us on the map and verified our system in a very short space of time."

With the BSI Kitemark recognised and trusted by over 82 per cent of the UK population, the ERV Kitemark scheme provides a comprehensive alternative to both the Carbon Trust Standard and CEMAR schemes, which do not provide a BS EN 16001 based system around which long-term reductions can be identified, managed and realised.

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To find out more about BSI's new Kitemark Energy Reduction Verification scheme visit www.bsigroup.co.uk/ERVKitemark



The BSI certification mark can be used on your stationery, literature and vehicles when you have successfully achieved certification.

