



# CASE STUDY

## Energy reduction surveys and guidance (Plastics processing)

### The task

Energy is a significant cost for most plastics processing companies but too often it is regarded as a 'fixed' cost and little is done to reduce the cost. In reality the cost of energy is variable and there are many actions that can be taken to reduce the cost.

Tangram is an accredited Carbon Trust consultant for energy reduction surveys and specialises in working with plastics processing companies to provide them with concrete guidance on how to reduce their energy costs.

### What we did

Tangram visited each company for a single visit and carried out a pre-programmed visit taking in a variety of topics such as the main plastics processing technology, compressed air, lighting, heating, motor selection and general management and motivation of the staff.

Tangram produced a structured report for each company giving:

- The reductions possible if industry standard benchmarks were achieved,
- Actions to be taken to achieve the reductions and indications of the likely cost of achieving the reductions,
- An implementation timetable for achieving the reductions,
- Information on the available resources and further information for achieving further cost reductions.

Each visit was followed up after 3-6 months (depending on the implementation programme) for a review discussion on the success of the implementation.

### The benefits

- Companies were given details of methods to achieve an average of 15% savings in the annual energy cost.
- Companies were shown a variety of simple methods of raising the profile of energy efficiency in the organisation.
- Companies achieved an average of 10% savings in the annual energy bill within 3-6 months of starting the programme. One company achieved an immediate £30,000 rebate from their energy suppliers and a £5000 reduction in their annual energy bill because of errors in tariff calculations.
- Companies had clear programmes for further future reductions in their energy costs (up to 10% in most cases).

### More details?

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