

# Case Study Energetics

## - energy efficiency leader makes the switch



### About Energetics

As one of the first Signatories to join CitySwitch Green Office, Energetics has undertaken simple energy saving actions to improve its NABERS Energy tenancy rating.

Energetics committed its North Sydney office to CitySwitch (then the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative) in 2005, recognising the importance of a program that engaged businesses.

When the CitySwitch program went national in June 2008, Energetics took the opportunity to extend its program commitment to its offices in Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth.

As a leader in Australia's energy efficiency solutions industry, Energetics is by no means new to sustainability. The company helps governments and companies manage

their climate change challenges, whilst striving to be an environmental role model itself.

### Walking the walk

Whilst Energetics provides climate change advice and support to clients on a daily basis, the organisation also wanted to demonstrate its own progress in energy efficiency.

As part of its CitySwitch commitments, Energetics has set the highest possible goal of achieving a 5 star NABERS Energy tenancy rating. This has provided Energetics with a chance to make a public pledge to staff and stakeholders that the company is committed to improving its performance in greenhouse gas emission reduction.

### CitySwitch in action

Through the implementation of a range of measures, mostly involving equipment upgrades and behaviour change improvements to the North Sydney office, Energetics aims to maintain its 5 star NABERS rating from 2008 into 2009.

### Goals

- To demonstrate Energetics' vision for sustainability
- To promote energy efficiency to staff, clients and suppliers
- To achieve a 5 star NABERS Energy tenancy rating



<b>Signatory status</b>	
Date joined CitySwitch	February 2005
Tenancy size	623 sqm
NABERS Commitment rating	★★★★★
Website	www.energetics.com.au
<b>Key outcomes</b>	
Total energy cost saving over 3 years	\$8,007.83
Total CO <sub>2</sub> emission reduction over 3 years	72.07 tCO <sub>2</sub> -e
Technology	Behaviour change, lighting timers and labels, appliance upgrades and 'power save' functionality

# Staff engagement and simple actions lead to greatest energy savings

## Step by Step

Energetics implemented a range of energy saving measures, many of which were low or no-cost actions:

- labeling the light switches to encourage staff to 'switch-off' in unoccupied zones
- reducing the number of lights in non critical parts of the office
- enabling power save functionality on all new computers
- ensuring majority of staff use laptops, with all other computers being upgraded to flat screen technology
- enabling Energy Star and power save functionality on all office utility equipment
- installing timer control switches on boiling water units
- purchasing a new energy and water efficient dishwasher to meet policy requirements
- regularly inspecting refrigerator seals
- creating a new sustainable procurement policy
- ensuring cleaners and security staff agreed to switch off all lights when the office is unoccupied
- using internal blinds where possible for shading and to reduce glare

- implementing eco-inductions for all new employees, educating them on energy management guidelines specific to their office
- supplying level 7 of the North Sydney office with 100% GreenPower™ (since August 2006).

## Inspiring a team effort

Energetics recognised that effective staff engagement would be essential for achieving ongoing energy efficiency. The organisation was able to connect with their employees through:

- participation in and sponsorship of Earth Hour
- e-updates to all staff including sustainability achievements
- internal and external training programs focusing on energy efficiency opportunities
- displaying posters throughout the office to remind staff to switch-off lights and equipment.

One particularly inspiring initiative was the 'cent-a-meter' power monitor installed to provide an instantaneous display of energy consumption within the North Sydney office. The display unit is situated on the reception desk to provide all employees and visitors the opportunity to view the office's

**"CitySwitch is a great opportunity for Energetics to demonstrate our vision for sustainability whilst ensuring real reductions in energy use and greenhouse gas generation. Programs such as CitySwitch are important in educating the business community and reducing our impact on the environment."**

**Tony Cooper**  
Managing Director

real time power usage and thereby raising energy awareness.

## ... and what worked best?

Labeling office light switches ensured that staff could identify the appropriate switch for the area that they would be working in. Whilst this was perhaps the simplest of actions implemented, it led to effective behaviour change which resulted in energy savings for the company.

## Get involved

Visit [www.cityswitch.net.au](http://www.cityswitch.net.au) for more information or call the CitySwitch Program Manager in your state. Contact details are listed on the website.

CitySwitch is a national tenant energy management program. Previously known as the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative, the program works with tenants to improve office energy efficiency, reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions attributed to climate change.

## CitySwitch Partners

