



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

An energy efficiency light at the end of the tunnel

Author: **gas-elec** Director

Energy efficiency is using less energy while receiving the same level of energy service. An example would be insulating your home to use less heating and cooling energy to achieve the same temperature, or installing an energy-saving device to economise on your gas usage. Installing fluorescent lights and/ or skylights instead of incandescent lights would also be an example of energy saving.

By making use of more energy efficient technology or processes rather than by changes in individual behaviour, it is easy to achieve efficient energy use.

In response to the global call to save energy, the trend towards designing energy efficient buildings, industrial processes and transportation have drastically increased in order to reduce energy consumption. This in turn plays a major part in reducing global emissions of greenhouse gases in a bid to protect and save the planet.

According to the Energy Saving Trust – a non-profit organisation funded by the UK government, devolved governments and the private sector – over 40% of the UK's carbon dioxide (CO²) emissions actually come from the energy we use every day.

Things like poor insulation, leaving lights on in unoccupied rooms or overfilling the kettle all waste energy and result in needless CO² emissions. However, it is encouraging to learn that thousands of households are changing the way they do things and are thinking – and demonstrating – energy efficiency.

For example:

- Turning off the lights when leaving a room, installing energy efficient condensing boilers and insulating their homes.
- Between 2002 and 2005 a massive 1.1 million households installed or topped up their loft insulation. It is estimated that £87 million a year in energy costs will be saved as a result of this.

What is evident is that by each of us making a small contribution, we can all make a difference. Whether it is replacing incandescent bulbs with energy-saving bulbs, or installing a 'green box' to the heating/ hot water system to lower utility bills and reduce energy consumption, you can definitely make a difference ... and save money at the same time!

ENDS/...

Issued by: gas-*elec* Safety Systems
Contact: Helen Bleasdale
PR & Marketing Manager
Tel: 01895 422988
Email: Helen.bleasdale@gas-elec.co.uk