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Environmental

Advertisement feature

The brilliantly simple way to save your business electricity

LIKE so many of the best inventions, Fluoresave works on a wonderfully simple principle and it is one that has slashed the energy bills of companies across the globe, in turn saving countless tonnes of carbon emissions from entering the atmosphere.

Fluorescent lights use more energy to start up than they need to run. However, few power supply systems recognise this, so continue to supply that higher level continuously, wasting electricity and reducing the life of the lights. Fluoresave reduces that power after start up.

"You really need 100 tubes to make the investment commercially viable," explained managing director Michael Dolphin.

"That may sound a lot, but modern offices have the sets of four shorter tubes recessed into the ceiling to provide the correct light for computer use. If an office has 25 of those, then they can save power and cut their bills with Fluoresave.

"The Fluoresave, which is about the size of a shoebox, comes in three sizes and the

smallest is powerful enough to control 130 tubes.

"The payback can vary and depends on the tariff a business is paying for its electricity and of course how long do they run their lights for? A 24-hour operation will recoup its costs very quickly.

"For example a national brewery that installed Fluoresave cut its power from 82Kwh per day to just 45Kwh – a saving of 45 per cent and the equipment was paid for in just over four months."

Terminal 5 at Capetown Airport achieved a 37 per cent saving and now all the terminals use Fluoresave. Additionally, the power was supplied by 'dirty' coal-fired power stations so there has been an even greater reduction in carbon emissions.

McDonald's was able to achieve a 40 per cent saving – enough to invest in a windmill to cleanly generate power and further reduce energy bills; while Mothercare in Reading achieved a 43 per cent saving.

Thousands of shoppers have unwittingly experienced the savings of Fluoresave even closer to home since it was

installed in 2003 in the Bayer multi-storey car park, used by visitors to the town centre at the weekends.

"At Bayer, we achieved a 43 per cent saving and the equipment paid for itself in nine months," explained Mr Dolphin. "That translated to a saving of 25 tonnes of CO2 – or the equivalent of 1.73 Trident double decker buses trundling around Newbury 24 hours a day, belching out fumes."

Fluoresave works with other lighting systems too, such as sodium, mercury and metal halide lamps, and the company has earned a mass of energy saving accreditations from across the world since it was launched in Australia in 1996.

With the trading in CO2 savings likely to become a significant market and the pressure on businesses to cut emissions, Fluoresave clearly has a bright future.

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