

Go Ahead Group

www.go-ahead.com



"I can now compare and contrast the performance of sites something which I've never been able to do before."

Chris Grinsted,
Group Environment and Energy
Manager,
Go Ahead Group

Go Ahead Group Gets On Track to Saving Energy

by Invensys Operations Management

Goals

- Reduce energy costs and carbon emissions;
- Reduce site energy costs by 15%;
- To assess whether targets are realistic.

Challenges

- Raw data was difficult to analyze and interpret;
- Estimated and incomplete data distorts the results;
- Existing system provided pages and pages of raw data with no tools to analyze it;
- Less than 10% of the Group's portfolio was on smart, half hourly meters.

Solutions and Products

- EDV Energy DataVision.

Results

- Accurate energy information with added intelligence is provided;
- Energy consumption from all sites can be viewed through one window;
- Performance of individual sites can be compared to other sites;
- Was able to re-negotiate the tariff price saving the Group some £300,000;
- Bus division has access to 90% of its consumption,
- Rail division has access to 70% of its consumption.

London, England – Public transport company The Go-Ahead Group operates bus, rail, car-parking and aviation support services throughout the UK. Go-Ahead is one of the UK's leading providers of quality public transport, employing around 27,000 people and transporting almost a billion passengers via buses and trains each year. Priding itself on its high levels of social and environmental responsibility the company has a commitment to minimize the impact its operations have on the environment and report annually to all stakeholders. With this in mind it's not surprising that The Go Ahead Group has a strong motivation to reduce energy costs and carbon emissions.

Set with a goal to reduce site energy consumption by 15%, Chris Grinsted, Group Environment and Energy Manager at Go Ahead looked at ways in which this could be achieved. With an array of sites ranging from a 32-acre train maintenance depot to small ticket offices, the need for a complete overview of site energy usage was paramount.

According to Grinsted, *"Good quality energy data is essential not only to see if you are achieving your targets but also to assess whether targets are in fact realistic. Basing targets on estimated or incomplete data will merely distort the results and a true reflection of any energy reduction efforts cannot be seen."*

Driving Energy Efficiency with IMServ Technology

Across the 450 sites in the Group's portfolio 40 were originally registered in the half hourly market

- where the energy usage is recorded automatically every half hour. The only form of visibility on this energy usage that the Group received was pages and pages of raw data on spreadsheets. *"Having time to read and digest the information would take forever and it's just not practical,"* said Grinsted.

Now with the help of IMServ solutions from Invensys Operations Management, the Group receives accurate energy information with added intelligence through Energy DataVision (EDV), an easy to use and secure web based tool. Energy consumption from all the registered half hourly sites can now be viewed through one window, eliminating the need to plough through pages of spreadsheets.

Data can be viewed in its simplistic form through graphs showing profile data or tables detailing registered reads, or at a more sophisticated level by benchmarking and monitoring sites.

Rolling Out

To obtain a greater insight into the consumption across the Group's vast portfolio, a roll out of non-half hourly smart meters was planned. However, through this exercise it soon became apparent that some sites registered as non-half hourly were in fact using so much energy that they should be classed as half hourly. Approximately 60 supplies changed profile class, which enabled The Go Ahead Group to re-negotiate the tariff price for these supplies - this alone has saved the Group some £300,000.



Almost a billion journeys are made with Go Ahead annually.

Smart meters were installed on the additional non-half hourly electricity supplies, providing the same energy intelligence as those registered as half hourly.

Now the Group benefits from an increased high-level overview of its energy usage.

Today the Group has access to energy data for 90% of its consumption within the bus division and 70% of consumption within its rail division.

What's more is that with a far higher quality of data and additional consumption profiles the Group is now able to benefit from new flexible procurement arrangements, so lessening its exposure to market risk and price volatility associated with some fixed term / fixed price contracts.

Through taking these steps The Go Ahead Group is on the right track to meeting their targets.



Analysing energy consumption is now a simple process.

IMServ services offer a flexible menu-based approach to Energy Management and Carbon Control: from complete outsourced solutions to individual targeted services.

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