

Interior Control Ltd Case Study



Background

In line with their 10:10 commitment (the campaign to reduce UK emissions by 10% in 2010), Interior Control Ltd wanted a cost-effective way to measure their energy footprint and a system that would control and reduce that energy automatically.

The Interior Control office in Peterborough comprises three workstations with three desktop computers and a laptop. All of the PCs are left running 24/7 as they are required for remote dial-in.

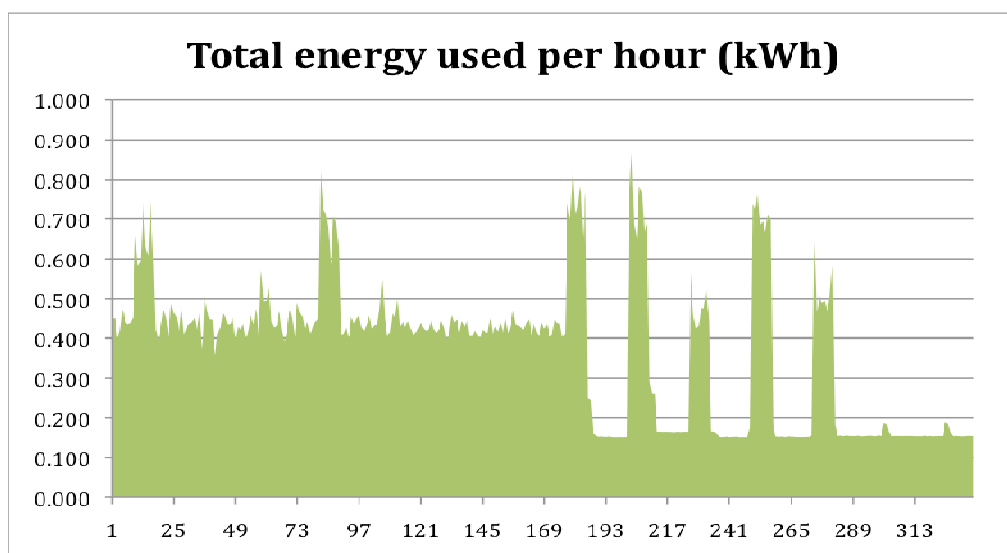
Additional office equipment consists of two printers, a photocopier, an additional monitor for the laptop, and assorted computer speakers, routers and switches.

Method

It was decided to divide the equipment into three categories, and connect each category to an Enistic 5-Way Smart Socket:

- Category 1 = PCs
- Category 2 = Printers and Copier
- Category 3 = Peripherals

For the first week, no switching was performed using the Enistic Energy Manager software. In the second week, the printers and photocopier plus the peripherals were switched off automatically overnight and over the weekend using a schedule created in Enistic Energy Manager.



Results

As can clearly be seen from the charts above and below, there were significant savings to be gained by using the scheduled switching feature of the Enistic Energy

Manager software.

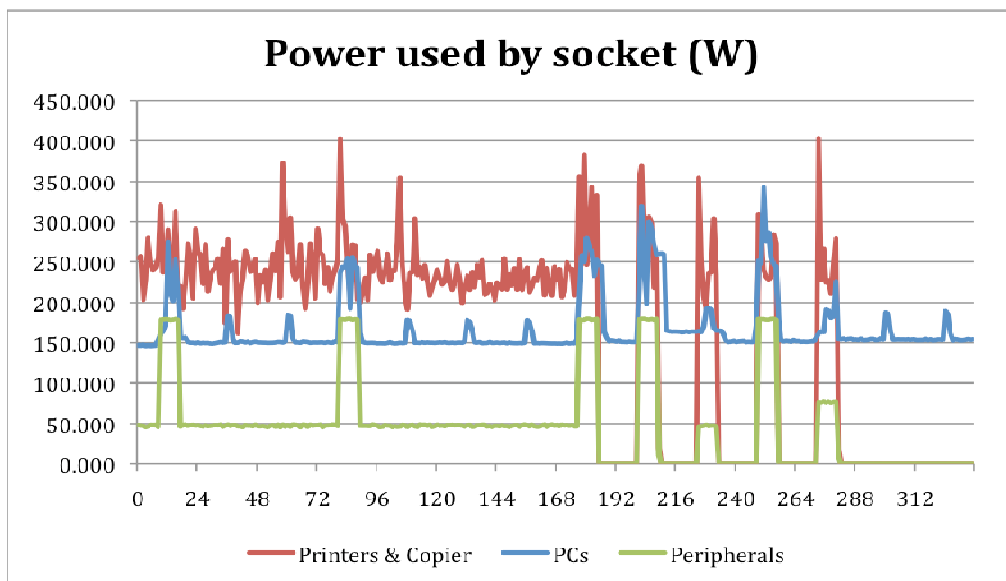
The total energy used in week 1 was 77.1 kWh. By week 2 it had dropped to 48.4 kWh – a saving of 28.7 kWh or 37.2%.

On an annual basis, these figures will give a saving of 1,492.4 kWh. This equates to **£179.08 saved every year** (assuming an energy cost of 12p/unit).

Conclusion

Although the Interior Control office is not typical – in that all the PCs must be left running at all times to permit remote dial-in for staff – the Enistic Energy Management System still enabled considerable savings of 37.2% to be made. This means an annual saving of £179.08 for this small, three-person, office.

The cost of the three Enistic 5-Way Smart Sockets, plus the Enistic Zone Controller and Energy Manager software licenses, was £289.60 – so the system would pay for itself in only 19 months. This would clearly be much shorter if the office PCs could also be automatically controlled.



Success and Further Improvements

With this 37% reduction in energy consumption, Interior Control Ltd. is well on its way to reaching its target of reducing emissions by 10% in 2010.

To further enhance the energy savings a Terminal Server was also installed, allowing the PCs to be shut down fully every night and weekend. By installing Enistic Powerdown screensavers on all three desktop computers, Interior Control expects to save a further 6% to 8%. This will mean a payback period of 13 months for the additional software expense (£10 per PC).