

Energy Grant 500

Can't get a customer's project off the ground?

Are your customers finding it difficult to afford your work?

For smaller companies wanting to cut their energy bills taking steps beyond simple 'switch off' can be confusing. Through Business Link, the South East of England Development Agency and the ERDF Competitiveness Fund are helping businesses in the South East cut their energy and CO² emissions by offering a grant of up to £500 and to make it easier to decide what to do – loaning a simple energy meter and offering ideas on changes that any company can make.

How does it work?

Businesses are offered the loan of a wireless energy monitor for a two to ten week period to identify where savings could be made through cutting energy usage. There is a Carbon Trust sticker and information pack to help motivate staff to 'switch off', and a walk around survey to help identify energy saving opportunities within the business. Once companies have decided what they want to do the application for a grant is easy, and up to £500 is available to help them make improvements.

Winning Business: How it can work for you

For one company in Bognor Regis, Hendesigns, this has proved to be a great opportunity to help grow and promote their own business. They offer free lighting surveys to businesses and give them clear guidance on what changes they can make to cut not only their energy bills but also their CO². They work

with a wide range of products and their team do the installation. Bob Henderson of Hendesigns, has been able to use the Energy Grant 500 offer as a door opener for companies that are interested in cutting their bills but just not been sure of what to do or may not have the spare cash. He has helped them look at their energy use and to complete the grant application form. "It's been a great way to get companies to take action – they don't need to use their own money, there are no strings attached and we're seeing some great carbon savings. It has also really helped Hendesigns get our name out into the market".

"I would recommend the grant to any business, whether they own their premises or not, as a great no-cost way to save money"

Eligibility

The grant is available for SMEs (small and medium-sized enterprises); companies with less than 250 employees, and a turnover of less than £40 million. Qualifying SMEs must have business premises, either rented or owned, in the SEEDA region, and an annual energy spend of between £1,500 and £30,000pa. Home based businesses will not be eligible.

Find out more

Call us on **08457 22 66 55** or e-mail
sustainability@bsk-cic.co.uk