

## Energy efficient office buildings in Upper Austria

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### Objectives / Background

Based on the successful previous building programme (30 % energy reduction in 95 % of all new one-family houses since 1993) in Upper Austria, a new programme supports especially innovative office buildings. The approach is that public buildings should be a leading example for other (commercial) office buildings. Thus the regional government of Upper Austria made a commitment to increase energy efficiency in public buildings by 1.5 % per year. O.Ö. Energiesparverband, the regional energy agency carries out a wide range of measures to achieve this target and to trigger energy efficient office buildings.

### Sustainable office buildings programme

So far the following was achieved for (office) buildings owned by the regional administration:

- Annual benchmarking and monitoring for all regional public buildings:
  - Energy consumption per m<sup>2</sup> decreased by 18.5 % since 1994
  - Electricity consumption stable despite “more IT”
- A large number of low energy public buildings in Upper Austrian municipalities
- TPF projects for the public buildings are being implemented. The recent TPF project includes 10 school & administration buildings, over 600,000 € were invested and annually 58,200 € energy costs and 278 t CO<sub>2</sub> are saved.

Based on the experiences and results with public buildings, the following measures for commercial office buildings were developed and are implemented:

- Energy and auditing service: energy advice service for companies (1,500 advice sessions carried out)

- Information & awareness raising activities: publications, events, campaigns, competitions
- Training courses: "energy efficient cooling", "energy advice and energy management for companies", "energy efficient lighting for larger buildings"
- Supporting industry & companies:  
"Ökoenergie-Cluster" (OEC): network of green energy businesses (149 companies, € 1,600 million/a turn-over, 4,000 employees) supporting business development
- TPF: regional third party financing programme, up to 44 % support for solar thermal and biomass installations in companies.
- R&D: technical and financial support is provided by the regional energy technology programme
- European projects: e.g. e-tools, Green Labels Purchase

### **Example: Campaign "Efficient lighting for companies"**

As lighting can account for up to 50% of the electricity consumption in office buildings, in 2007 a campaign to promote energy efficient lighting solutions was carried out. The main features of the campaign were:

- "Exchange of lamps": 165 retailers joined the campaign and offered energy efficient lamps at a reduced price for 2 months, cooperation with Philips and Osram to finance the price reduction
- Conference "Efficient lighting for larger buildings" with about 300 participants
- New brochure "Efficient lighting for larger buildings" offers comprehensive information
- New website to promote the campaign and provide information:  
[www.richtig-hell.at](http://www.richtig-hell.at)
- Energy advice service for companies includes "lighting", a new training course for energy efficient lighting in larger buildings
- Pilot projects implemented, e.g. exchange of lamps in the staircase of a tower building, energy efficient lighting in a new hospital, exchange of light bulbs in the main administration building of the regional government
- Media work, press releases, press conferences.