

UNITED KINGDOM: Label Apeel (Leicester) (gas consumption)

Label Apeel, a label manufacturer based in Leicestershire in the United Kingdom have been supplying labelling solutions to businesses since the company was launched in 1982. They initially installed ½ hourly data collection equipment under the AIM4SMES project and through very simple cost-free measures reduced their heating consumption by over half.



Label Apeel is a four storey building but the top two floors are un-heated, the building has one integrated gas heating system. The building is being used from 6 am to 10 pm from Monday to Thursday, and from 6 am to 6 pm on Friday. Label Apeel have about 39 staff.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Company name	Label Apeel
First metering installed	31/10/2008
Baseline consumption (03/11/2008 – 30/11/2008) [4 weeks]	1,177.9 kWh
Final consumption (12/01/2009 – 08/02/2009) [4 weeks]	636.1 kWh
Savings	54%

SME POINT OF VIEW

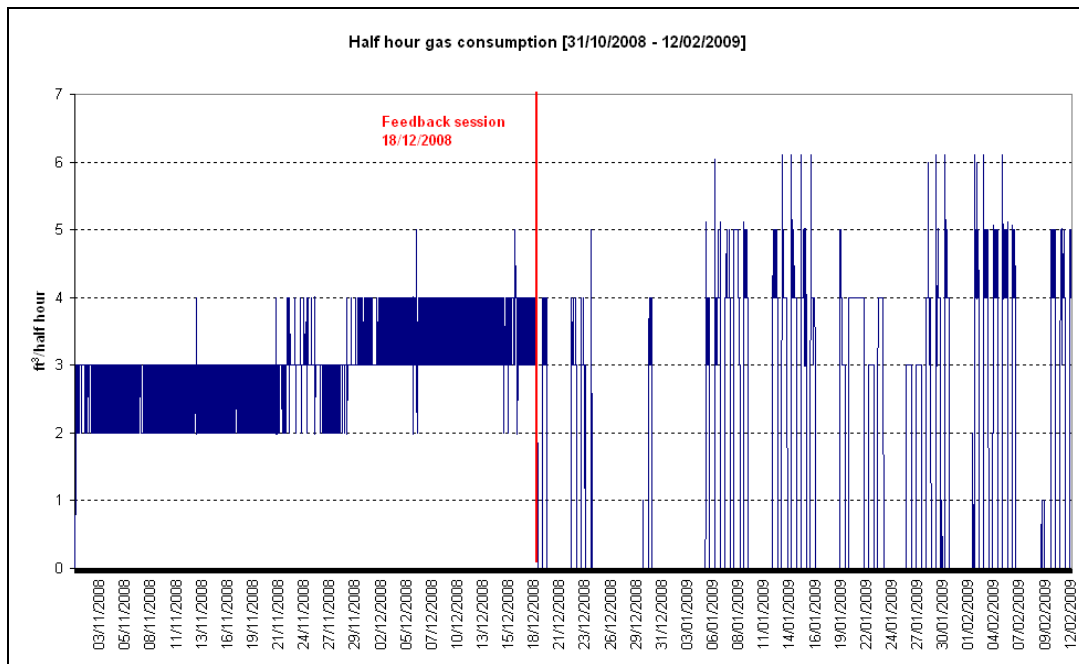
De Montfort University installed temporary monitoring equipment ("comet" OCR based technology) to monitor half hourly gas consumption in October 2008. Soon after installation of the metering system it was noticed that gas consumption in the main building was at the same level no matter what time of day or day of the week. This was quickly identified as a clear indication that the heating system was not properly under control and that the building was being heated during unoccupied periods, i.e. 24 hours a day, over the weekdays as well as over the weekends, even though there is no access to the building at the weekends.

An initial analysis of the gas consumption profile in November 2008 [03/11 – 30/11] pointed out that the average consumption was between 2 and 3 ft³ per half hour, while the total consumption for the month was around 1,177.9 kWh. It was identified that the temperature

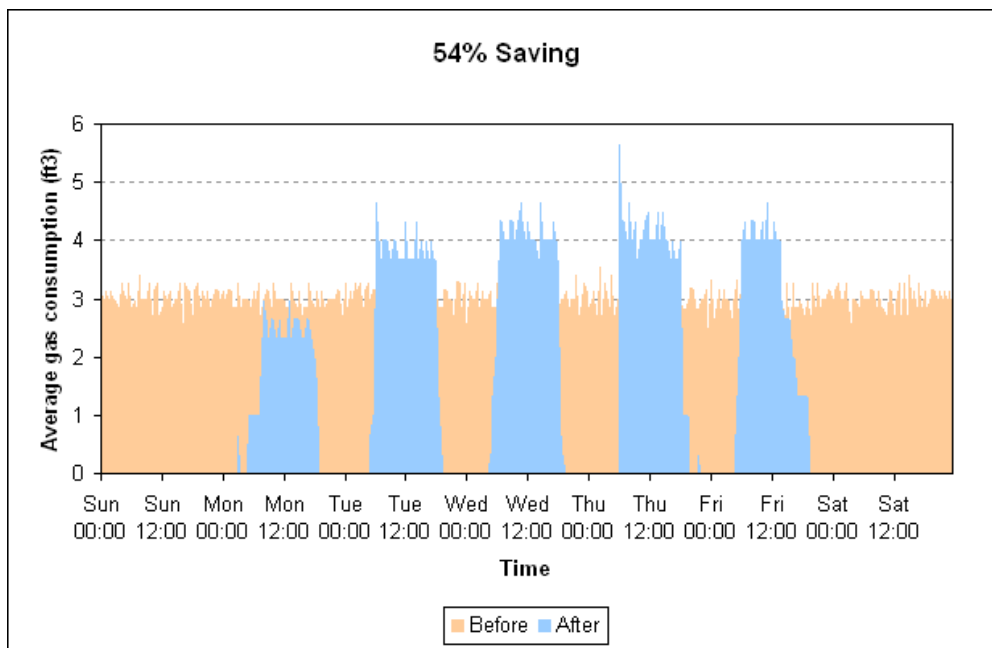
control of the heating system within the building was set to a prescribed reference value. Gas consumption started increasing towards the end of November due to a decrease in outside temperatures.

INTERVENTIONS

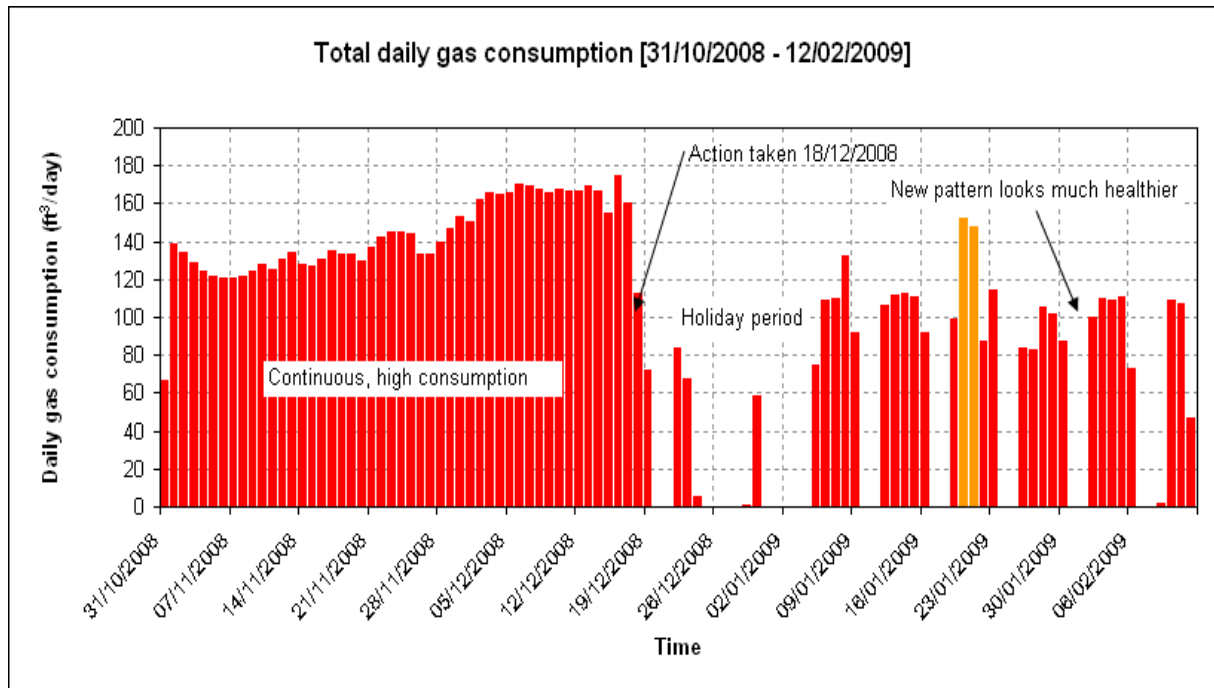
As a result of the installation of the monitoring system and a feedback/training session conducted in December 18th 2008, Label Apeel took immediate action. The heating system started to be switched on and off according to the working hours and weekdays.



The gas consumption profile improved significantly by simply setting the existing 24-hour timer control and arranging for the boiler to be manually switched off over the weekends. This simple action cost nothing and showed more than a 50% saving on heating energy which translates directly to cash savings.



The saving in gas consumption can be seen also in the following graphs.



Label Apeel are now using automatic intelligent metering of their energy consumption, from Energy Metering Technology. This is connected to Leicester City Council/Leicester Energy Agency’s energy monitoring bureau service.

CONCLUSIONS

Energy wastage used to be difficult to identify without the cost and inconvenience of regular energy surveys. Automated metering systems ensure costly problems such as this can be identified and resolved as soon as they arise.

A significant saving in gas consumption has been achieved through the implementation of a no cost saving opportunity following the analysis of ½ hourly consumption data.

AIM 4 SMEs

**AIM 4 SMEs – Automatic Intelligent Metering
for Small and Medium Sized Businesses**

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AIM 4 SMEs is a Europe-wide project to demonstrate the potential for energy savings from automatic intelligent metering in small/medium-sized enterprises.

The project involves nine partners from five countries (Austria, Hungary, Poland, Portugal and the UK), including businesses, local/regional energy agencies, an association of municipalities, universities and a utility company. www.aim4smes.com

Intelligent Energy  **Europe**

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