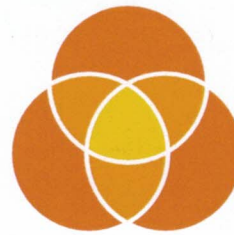


CASE STUDY 2012 PASSIONATE VETCARE



SRA
Sustainable
Regional Australia

Veterinary Clinic Saves Energy

Passionate Vetcare on Eaglehawk Road, Bendigo offers a high standard of veterinary care in a comfortable and friendly environment. The clinic opened in 1988 and has cared for thousands of pets ever since. Recently Drs Kellie Anset and Kate Watts embarked on a redevelopment of their premises. They were keen to do so in an energy conscious way.

"Being energy and environmentally responsible has always been a goal of ours. Having an achievable goal to reduce our energy by over 35% is inspiring; we are very excited about the future. The Business Energy Assessment has given us a clear, cost saving way forward."

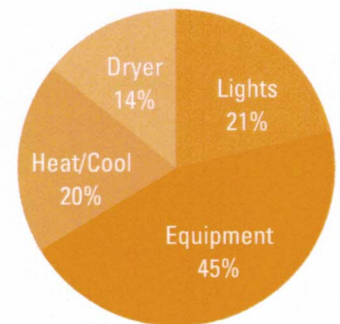
- Co-Owner Kate Watts, Passionate Vetcare



BEA Manager Bruce Hordern with Passionate Vetcare Co-Owner Dr Kate Watts, and Jessie the dog.

Energy Survey Results

SRA's Business Energy Assessment identified a number of opportunities for improving energy efficiency. As is common with many long established businesses, Passionate Vetcare housed a variety of old/outdated technologies. Having an external consultant review the existing equipment, along with current business energy use practices, helped the owners prioritise the areas to address. Passionate Vetcare's annual energy consumption in 2011 was 25 MWh. Approximately 45% of this was for equipment specific to surgery, 21% for lighting 20% for heating and cooling, and 14% for the electric dryer.



Saving Recommendations

Gas dryer to replace electric clothes dryer which, which operates for many hours each day to provide the large quantities of clean towels that are required at all times. Clothes dryers use a lot of energy. Switching to gas will help reduce costs considerably.

Upgrade to reverse cycle heating and cooling instead of electric resistant heaters. It is important not only that clients are comfortable but also that the clinic stays at a regulated temperature around the clock for optimum animal health and well being. Reverse cycle heating is 3 to 4 times cheaper to operate than electric panel heaters.

LED light upgrade to external lighting, which operates 24/7 for security and advertising purposes. Replacing current energy inefficient lights with LEDs will provide ongoing savings.

Power down items currently operating 24/7 if they are only required a portion of this time. Pair this with turning off lights when leaving rooms to help reduce energy use.

Replace electric hot water with gas as part of the renovations. The old electric hot water unit was to be decommissioned - replacing this with a natural gas unit will help reduce operating costs.

Estimated Savings

SRA's Business Energy Assessment identified savings of over 35% at the clinic. This could reduce Passionate Vetcare's energy consumption by 9MWh, 11 tonnes Greenhouse gas emission and over \$2,000 per annum.

SRA Business Energy Assessment

- ✓ Improves efficiency in your business
- ✓ Shows you how to control your energy costs
- ✓ Saves money
- ✓ Assists in understanding where your energy is going and how to be more energy efficient
- ✓ Increases energy performance