



CASE STUDY

'Energy in plastics processing - a practical guide'

The task

Tangram was commissioned by the Energy Efficiency Best Practice Programme (now Action Energy) to prepare a review guide for improving energy efficiency in all types of plastics processing. Action Energy had some specific guides for processes but there was no general and easily accessible practical guide to improving energy efficiency for the complete plastics processing industry. The industry needed a guide to the general techniques of energy efficiency, to the main processes used for plastics and also to the major ancillary services such as motors and compressed air.

What we did

Tangram wrote and compiled a review of the complete range of energy usage in plastics processing.

The guide starts at the very basic level of how to understand the energy usage on a plastics processing site and how to determine the answers to the basic questions of where, when, why and how energy is being used. Practical measures in the areas of motivation and training, basic machine usage and setting, and performance recording are covered for all the main processes. Practical measures for reducing energy use in utilities such as water, compressed air and general building services are covered with special emphasis on the needs of plastics processors. The absolute cost of energy can also be reduced by improved energy purchasing and the guide includes measures on how to purchase energy in the most effective way.

Tangram produced all the artwork used in the publication and submitted 'camera-ready copy' to EEBPp for publication.

The benefits

- Clear layout and information for the plastics processing industry.
- All types of plastics processors have an easy single point of reference for energy efficiency information covering not only the major processes but also the basics, the utilities usage and purchasing of energy.
- The book provides a 'signposting' guide to other Action energy Resources in plastics processing and general energy efficiency.
- Plastics processors can considerably reduce not only their total energy consumption but also their absolute energy cost by carrying out the practical tips given in the publication.

More details?

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