



CASE STUDY

'Energy management in plastics processing'



The task

The profits of most plastics processing companies have suffered significantly due to rising energy costs and in many companies energy is now the second largest variable cost. Despite this, there was no structured guidance available to plastics processors on how to reduce energy costs.

Whilst there was general information available it did not cover the specifics of plastics processing. The book was produced to provide this guidance for all types of plastics processors and draws on our experience of energy surveys at over 250 companies throughout the world.



What we did

Tangram has long been involved in reducing energy costs in plastics processing and strongly believes that it is essential for processors to start managing energy costs. Too many processors see energy costs as fixed and uncontrollable but the reality is that they are highly variable (with production volume) and easily controlled to reduce costs by up to 30%.

Most of the energy costs in plastics processing are in the plastics processing machines and starting work by reducing lighting is a common and fatal error. Companies need a structure to reduce costs in a logical way, in all areas and in all types of processing methods.

Tangram produced a book (Energy Management in Plastics Processing: targets, techniques and tools - PID Books – 2008, ISBN 978-1-906479-03-9) detailing all of the changes required and giving clear step-by-step instructions for implementation.

Plastics companies throughout the world are now using the book as a template for managing energy to reduce costs and carbon emissions.

The benefits

- A clear understanding of the basics of energy management in plastics processing.
- Benchmarks for most of major processes at both the site and machine level.
- Covers benchmarking, management, services, processing, operations, buildings and gives details of how to carry out site survey.
- Provides clear models, guidelines, checklists and structures for achieving real and permanent control of energy costs in plastics processing.
- Presented in easily copied A3 format for each topic - for easy distribution and use throughout the company.

More details?

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