

Sector Guide: Printing

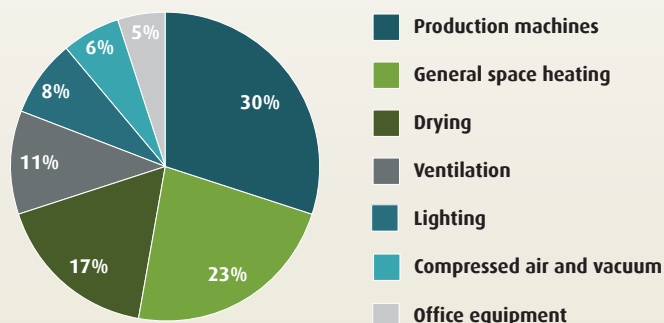


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Energy has tended to be seen as an unavoidable business expense. However, many successful businesses now realise that their energy consumption needs careful and detailed monitoring to assess the impact the right equipment can make and also the positive affect that employees' work practices can have on consumption.

Print Production

Digital printing can require less drying and offer smaller individual print runs, while LED-curing technology offers instant start-up, low energy consumption. While just in time production can lead to less efficient production schedules.



Average energy consumption in a European printing company:

Energy Management Standardization in the Printing Industry https://www.emspi.eu/images/deliverables/pdf/publishable_report_09-05-2017_def.pdf

Waste

Print industry waste can include paper, card, plastic, tin, toner, ink, cartridges, wipes, foil and much more. Items such as high-quality white paper can be a premium waste and unlaminated papers can be recycled at the paper mill or converted into animal bedding, so separating laminated and unlaminated paper waste can reduce your landfill.

Film and plate developer, hazardous inks, solvents and blanket washes can be converted, through bio-digestion, into inert sludge and non-hazardous liquids. Some inks can be put through recovery processes that can produce high-quality black ink. End of life pallets can be processed into chip and fibre board or used for biomass heating.

Review where your waste is actually going, is as much being recycled as it could be, are you missing an income stream?

Compressed Air

It seems obvious, but ensure the compressor is turned off when not needed at the end of a work shift or the weekend. Make sure it is not being used unnecessarily for tasks that could be done with brushes or vacuums. Reduce the pressure to suit the demand and ensure all pipework and tools are leak free. Isolate unused pipework sections.

Ensure the compressor intake is coming from a cool source and that the heat that is generated is removed. This can be utilised to heat other areas such as drying rooms or paper storage areas to pre-condition the stock.

Modern compressors will utilise more efficient motors (IE4 or IE5) which can improve efficiency by 5%, variable speed motors can offer savings of as much as 50%.



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Further Information

Energy Management Standardization in the Printing Industry

https://www.emspi.eu/images/deliverables/pdf/publishable_report_09-05-2017_def.pdf

Energy Management in the Czech Printing Industry

<http://www.batsgraph.com/rs/176/d112d6ad-54ec-438b-9358-4483f9e98868/1e2/fd/1/filename/enviros-energy-efficiency.pdf>

PrintWeek – What printers can do to recycle waste

<https://www.printweek.com/print-week/feature/1163530/what-printers-can-do-to-recycle-waste>



For further support and details of any opportunities for grant funding please contact a Carbon Charter advisor.