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Evaluation of Energy Efficiency Checks in UK Businesses

Intelligent Energy  Europe

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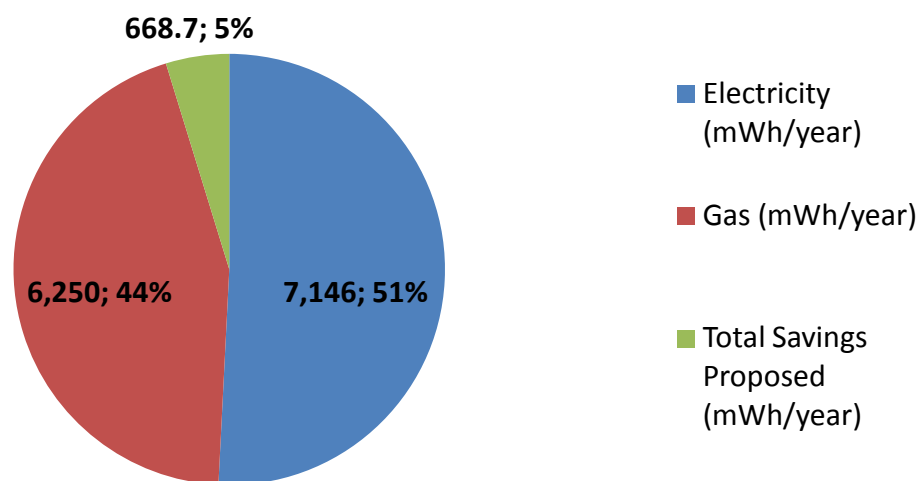
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Within the UK the ENGINE SME programme aimed to assess the energy consumption of organisations in the metal fabrication and food processing industries. In total seven businesses were provided with onsite energy audits to analyse both energy consumption and cost within the buildings. Through the audit process a range of energy saving measures were identified for each business, including no, low, and capital cost recommendations.

Overall the total savings proposed amount to 5% of energy consumption, as seen in the chart below. However, this equates to identified cost savings of almost £51,000 per annum and a reduction in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions of 276 tonnes per annum.

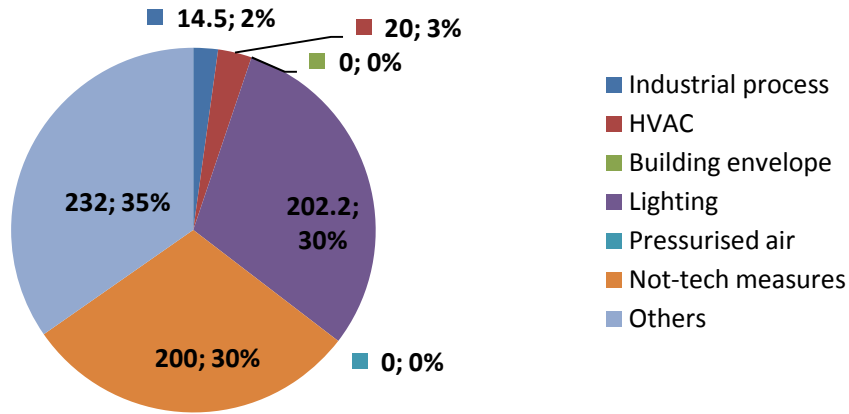
Energy Consumption (mWh/year) vs. Recommended Savings



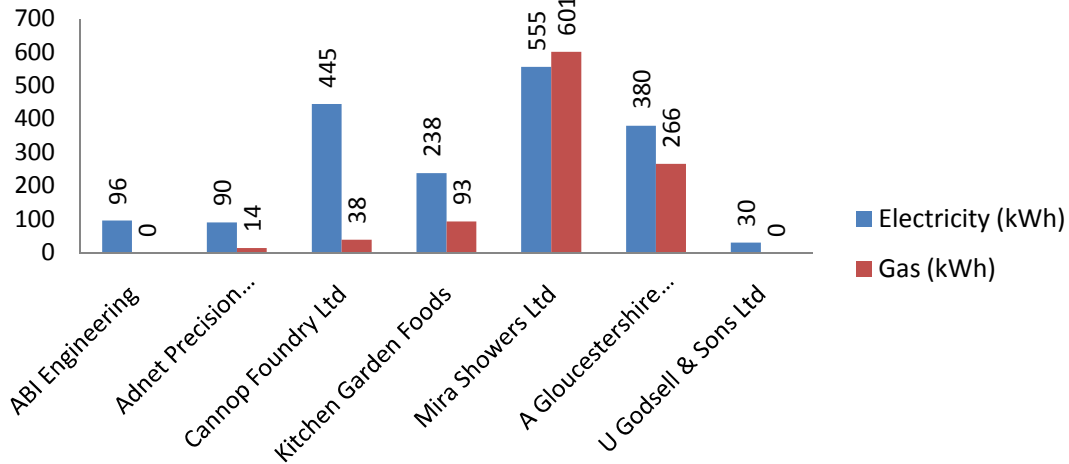
The areas with the biggest potential for energy reductions are lighting; not-tech measures (e.g. staff awareness training); and others – which includes routine energy management and degree analyses for example. The chart below highlights the potential for energy reduction within each category of measures proposed. The three categories previously mentioned have a higher chance of being implemented, compared to the other measures. This is due in part to the majority of these measures being no or low cost options.

One of the biggest barriers to energy efficiency improvements facing SMEs in the UK is the lack of available capital investment and an equal lack of knowledge of the funding programmes that are available. Most businesses have indicated that a lack of internal resources (both financial and human resources) has resulted in fewer recommendations being implemented.

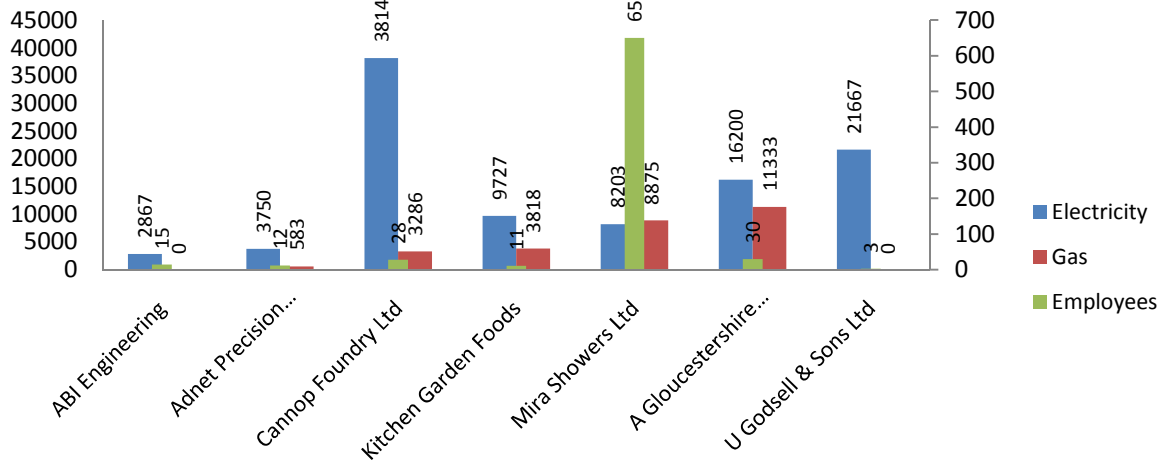
Recommended Savings (mWh/year, %)



Energy Consumption/m²/Year



kWh/employees/year



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ENGINE

Energy Efficiency in SME

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