

Terrassa City Council

Spanish City Delivers Against Energy Efficiency Goals



Adapted from the original Spanish announcement:

From the technology, logistics, and quality departments, we strive to attain constant improvement within telematic and computer systems. Improving energy efficiency is an important issue in this area, not only for economic reasons and cost reductions derived from electrical waste elimination, but also for a valuable contribution to the environment and to make our surroundings more sustainable.

Therefore, in this way, we have implemented a new PC power management system based on an innovative tool applied to all our networked computers: Verdiem Surveyor.

This system automatically applies pre-defined saving policies to computers and screens, putting them in low power mode when not in use. In such state, a PC uses about 5% of the energy it consumes while in active mode, saving a really important quantity of energy without performance or functionality losses.

Overall a several month period, we audited the energy consumption of our computers to find out the baseline consumption before any management system is in place. Based on the data we have been gathering in the previous phase, we will be able to obtain about 28% energy and costs savings. This has another really important side effect: we will reduce around 40 Tn in yearly CO2 emissions into the atmosphere. The payback period will be in our case of about 11 month. To put this in perspective, you should know that 15 computers create the same amount of annual emissions than a compact car, and we have 1600!

The positive impact in the electricity bill is feasible from day one, and the tool allows us to analyze the electricity consumption related to real user activity with its built in reporting system. Doing comparison analysis and studying real consumption data delivered by this system, we could design power management plans tailored to the entire organization, groups of users or individuals, with great granularity to optimize energy consumption at service, unit or worker level.

This project has been led by the Systems Operations team, especially by Francisco Martín, Alberto Sol, José María Marañón and Juan Carlos Rodríguez, and with the collaboration of Leantricity, Verdiem solution provider with extensive knowledge in the field of energy saving applied to ICT.