Case Study

Solar Thermal Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

Solar thermal assisted compression technologies providing effective and efficient process cooling

SolX Energy’s ThermX technology markedly increased the efficiency of both air conditioning and refrigeration within this Kay Group - Texaco and Spar Convenience Store in Lancashire, UK. Our system is an innovative, combined technology designed to harvest the free energy from the sun, thus creating thermal energy to better assist the refrigerant compression process.

Customer Situation

Over recent years energy prices have continued to rise at a rate in excess of 8% per annum.

This can have a severe impact on overall site profitability, with electricity now being the second largest overhead in this multisite business.

Solution

Provide a turnkey solution with the goal of producing the most energy efficient fuel site in the UK

Challenge: any additional capital expenditure involved in the whole installation must have a Return on Investment for the Group of no more than 3-years

Benefits

*Reduced electricity overhead
*Reduced ongoing equipment maintenance costs
*Extended lifespan of equipment

For every other refrigeration system on the planet, the sun is effectively the enemy…with ThermX however, the hotter it gets, the more efficient it becomes; reducing overall energy consumption by up to 60% when the sun is in the sky.

“The UK benefits from between 1,400 and 1,900hrs of unbroken sunshine every year; at such a small comparative additional cost there are no reasons why any business would not take advantage of this free energy on their cooling & heating systems”. - Chris Micallef, Technical Director, SolX Energy Ltd.
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The above graph illustrates the KWh usage of the whole site in comparison to an exact blue print site within the same group.

**Formby, Liverpool** – this site was built around 2-years prior by a competing company. The red bars above show the average monthly energy consumption illustrated above in KWh.

**Rossendale Rd** – this site was constructed in July 2014. At this point we installed a number of efficiency technologies which included – LED lighting, voltage optimisation and ThermX on both refrigeration and air conditioning (heating & cooling).

In comparison to the exact replica site, in total the efficiencies installed in Rossendale Rd reduced the energy consumption by **56%**. Removing the efficiencies achieved by the LED lighting and voltage optimisation showed that ThermX was responsible for in excess of **40%** of the 56%, or **71%** of the over efficiencies achieved.

“After retrofitting seven of our sites, they collectively reduced the energy consumption by **36%**, therefore they were clearly the right partner for this new build project. So far they are producing results that are in line with their own projections and therefore well in line with our expectations”.
Richard Cox, MD of The Kay Group

**Project Partners**
- The Kay Group
- Spar
- Modern Refrigeration UK Ltd
- SolX Energy Ltd
- Diverse Cooling Ltd

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Energy earns, or simply burns  
...the choice is yours