

# AWARD: PUBLIC SECTOR COMMITMENT TO CARBON REDUCTION

Buckinghamshire County Council



## 'Installing voltage optimisation technology in County Hall'



The PowerPerformer

### Notable Features

The application of this technology significantly reduces BCC carbon emissions and energy bills, and sets an example to Buckinghamshire businesses and residents on sustainability. The technology is relatively new in the UK, and BCC involvement helps to champion it.

### Setting the scene

PowerPerformer offers voltage optimisation technology with a short-term payback, around two years at County Hall, which introduces a number of benefits. Energy waste is reduced, along with carbon emissions, energy bills and maintenance costs. The decision to install the technology was both economical and environmental, helping BCC reduce emissions in its own offices and so set an example to the public.

### Beating the odds

At the time the PowerPerformer was installed at County Hall (2005) few other UK companies or authorities were available as case studies, although the technology was widely used in Japan. Installing the technology was therefore a risk, but PowerPerformer guaranteed its success with a money back guarantee, reducing the financial risk to BCC. We also carried out our own bench testing of electrical appliances and lighting, ensuring everything would run at the projected voltage.

### Reaping the benefits

The PowerPerformer technology has been a success, giving BCC consumption a 13.1% reduction. This equates to 82 tonnes per year. Having a working system in our main offices gives us scope to apply it elsewhere, and we are currently working on a project to install the technology into several schools.

### Contact details

Zoe Dixon  
Environmental Coordinator  
Buckinghamshire County Council  
8th Floor  
County Hall  
Walton Street  
Aylesbury  
HP20 1UY  
Tel: 01296 383710  
zoe.dixon@buckscc.gov.uk

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