

RICOH ARENA

The award-winning Ricoh Arena is unlike any other development in the UK, offering state-of-the-art conference, banqueting, exhibition, a 121-bedroom hotel and sports facilities, as well as one of the UK's largest casinos, two restaurants, and 2,000 secure on-site car parking spaces. Situated in the heart of England, and within a two-hour drive for 75% of the population, we attract over one million visitors each year.

At the Ricoh Arena we recognise our responsibility for managing our environmental impact. We have developed a corporate Environment & Sustainability Policy, as well as an Energy Policy, and are committed to the following measures:

- Making building services (such as lighting and heating) as energy efficient as possible;
- Publishing the results of our energy-saving initiatives every three months;
- Investigating the installation of on-site renewable energy generation.

The site has two separate buildings – the Ricoh Arena and the G-Casino – which each have their own energy-saving machinery. We monitor both to ensure that their efficiency is maintained, and to observe consumption levels. A total of £140,000 has been spent since 2008 on the installation of over 200 half-hourly meters in both buildings. These improve our ability to monitor energy consumption, and so help us to pin-point areas for improvement and act upon them immediately. They also enable us to accurately charge tenants for their energy use across the 40-acre site.

One area we have identified for improvement has been lighting: over 100 passive infra-red sensors have been fitted in corridors and various locations around the Ricoh Arena so that lights are not left on for long periods, wasting unnecessary energy. This is particularly important in corridors and concourses off the Ricoh Arena's stadium bowl, which are often used only once a fortnight when football matches take place and only for concerts during the summer.

We have also introduced a smart flush system in over 200 toilets, and are in the process of installing new water valves so that toilets not in use can be isolated, leaving no opportunity for water to be wasted. Another key change is the introduction of optimisation units in our six boilers, which allows them to be fired up only when needed, rather than under constant operation.

On-going measures include:

- The installation of the latest electric, water and gas meter systems in 41 new hotel bedrooms opened in early 2013;
- Replacement of all lighting throughout the Ricoh Arena with energy-saving devices;
- Training for staff and tenants to encourage them to switch off computers and lights which are not in use;
- Continuing review of the Building Management System to make sure it is working efficiently, and areas for improvement are identified;
- Introduction of a trained energy management team to instantly identify and rectify any anomalies in energy use and reporting, as well as to reduce energy loads in specific areas, which is vital in a multi-purpose building;
- Introduction of a 'Switch-Off' mascot character to raise awareness of energy waste among staff, tenants and the community;
- Taking an active role in Coventry-wide switch-off schemes, by switching off two large neon Ricoh signs on the roof of the stadium. As these are seen by thousands of motorists on the M6 and A444 each day, switching them off is a highly visible method of communicating our support for the annual project.
- Determining how renewable energy techniques and methods can be adapted to our particular needs, to protect against rising energy prices.

Our energy efficiency measures have conserved approximately 3 mega-watts of energy in the last three years. By implementing these measures, we have been able to control energy costs, in spite of rising energy prices. We were awarded the Carbon Trust Standard in 2010, after reducing our carbon emissions by 16 per cent between April 2007 and March 2010. We were also placed joint first in the 2010/11 CRC Performance League Table, which ranks organisations according to their energy efficiency performance.