



Summary

Office Plug Loads: Energy Use and Savings Opportunities

A Web Conference from the California Energy Commission PIER Program

Previous Web Conference

Date: Thursday January 26, 2012

Duration: 1 hour and 15 minutes

Moderator: David Weightman, Energy Specialist, California Energy Commission

Agenda:

This web conference will discuss the results of the commercial office plug load field monitoring study conducted on behalf of the California Energy Commission's Public Interest Energy Research (PIER) program. The study, completed in July 2011, characterized the energy consumption of plug load devices in commercial applications and explored opportunities for plug load energy savings.

The plug load research team, led by Ecova (formerly Ecos Consulting) with PECE field support, inventoried the plug loads in two Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified buildings in California and recorded detailed meter files on a subset of inventoried devices (mainly office equipment). Low- and no-cost energy-reduction strategies were implemented and then the energy consumption was remetered. The comparison of this use to the baseline allowed for estimation of the savings potential from these strategies. In conjunction, the New Buildings Institute (NBI) conducted direct panel-level metering and determined the energy breakout between building systems.

We'll go over the findings from the study and how they can be used to suggest savings opportunities and actions that building owners, utilities, and policy-makers can take to obtain these savings in commercial buildings.

Speakers:

Cathy Higgins, Program Director, NBI

Amy Cortese Renbarger, Senior Project Manager, NBI

Chris Calwell, Senior Fellow, Policy and Research, Ecova

Catherine Mercier, Project Lead, Ecova

You will learn:

- Which devices were the largest plug load electricity users from the study
- What opportunities exist to reduce electricity use for office equipment plug loads
- How power-management settings and other software controlled by an IT department can affect potential energy savings
- How occupant behavior plays a role in plug-load electricity use and savings opportunities
- How the study and assessment of plug loads in commercial buildings could factor into programs and policies

Who should attend: Professionals in the building industry, office managers, building asset managers, electric device engineers, electrical engineers, and utility commercial program managers.

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