

# SHOULD YOUR HOTEL HAVE ENERGY MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS?

Even as commercial costs of energy continue to increase, the hospitality industry is faced with the challenge of ensuring high level of guest comfort while keeping energy bills in check. **Solomon James** advises on the right kind of solutions for your hotel.

**'E**nergy' takes on added significance in a country like India, which is constantly grappling with an energy shortfall and thus industries, including hospitality are searching for ways and means to enhance their energy efficiency.

As part of their green initiatives, hospitality properties across the country encourage guests to be energy conscious not just for the benefit of the hotel but the environment as well, but if you are looking for a far more long term and sure solution, the answer lies in a smart energy management solution.

Numerous hotels who have, or are aspiring for a Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) certification already have a solution in place, but if one would do a cost-benefit analysis, an energy management solution can actually benefit any hotel property as it results in a cost saving of anywhere from 20-30% to a hotel.

## How does an energy management solution work?

An energy management solution can be seamlessly installed into your guest rooms, conference room, restaurant and other areas just like electrical fitting. Infrared occupancy sensing with logic-control software is configured to respond if temperature or lighting increase or drop beyond predetermined parameters. This means the air conditioners, TV, room lighting, electric kettles and heaters in the guest room are configured to switch off, without your hotel staff invading your guest's privacy, when the room is vacant. This is a significant advantage as studies show a room is typically occupied for 50-55% of the time and stays unoccupied for 44-49%.

## How does an energy management solution benefit a hotel?

Whether you are a resort, independent hotel or



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chain, or a serviced apartment, a smart energy management system can help your property:

- Reduce energy consumption and wastage in empty rooms
- Regulate room temperature according to guest preference
- Provide instant access to real-time occupancy data for review by managers and owners from any wireless connection
- Streamline housekeeping efficiency and reduce guest disturbance
- Heighten security including unreported occupancy detection
- Easy integration with existing heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system without building a new network
- Increase evacuation efficiency in case of emergency
- Access business intelligence through report generation of energy consumption
- Optimise use of hotel staff

To extract maximum advantage from your energy management solution, it should have an interface with your property management solution or hotel ERP. This helps your hotel access reports about your energy usage and saving. This business intelligence also enables you to understand consumption patterns and better prepare for them; it also helps locate consumption hotspots and try to introduce efficiency methods. ■

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## **Energy Management Solution**

- *Energy Saving*
- *Enhanced Guest Experience*
- *Optimised Use of Manpower*
- *Fraud Protection*
- *Enhanced Security*