Virginia Power’s Commercial Energy Efficiency Programs

Virginia Power offers energy efficiency programs for businesses. They provide cash rebates or financial payments/incentives to participating customers.

- **Distributed Generation.** Provides payments to customers who own generators for running their generators a few times per year when requested. UMS can help you with this.
- **Energy Audits.** Includes an energy auditor coming to you to perform an energy audit.
- **Lighting Systems/Controls.** Helps pay for upgrades to your lighting systems and controls. Upgrade to LED or install occupancy sensor light switches.
- **Duct Sealing and Testing.** Helps ensure HVAC equipment is running efficiently by finding and correcting leaks in the duct system.
- **HVAC Efficiency.** Provides rebates to help pay for installing or upgrading HVAC systems.
- **Small Business Improvement.** Provides energy assessment and improvement recommendations for businesses with a peak demand of less than 100 KW.
- **Window Film.** Provides rebates to install window film. Very worthwhile.

These programs expire December 24, 2016. Act now while they still exist. Email Audits@UtilManagement.com for more information.

Section 179d Commercial Building Tax Deduction

Section 179d of the Internal Revenue Code offers new or existing qualified building owners a one-time depreciation deduction of up to $1.80 per square foot for their installation of energy efficiency measures such as high efficiency interior lighting; efficient building envelopes; or heating, cooling, ventilation (HVAC), or hot water systems. If you have invested in energy efficiency, talk with your tax preparer about a 179d deduction.

Federal Business Energy Investment Tax Credit

The federal government offers a generous investment tax credit to pay for 30% of certain approved energy improvements made by business owners. Approved projects include solar power, wind power, geothermal, fuel cells and more. If you are making an investment in one of these technologies, be sure to talk with your tax preparer and take advantage of this valuable tax credit. The below link provides more details about the tax credits.

http://energy.gov/savings/business-energy-investment-tax-credit-itc

Save Energy Win an iPad

SEE LIST AND FORM ON PAGE 2.

UMS is also working to promote energy efficiency. On the back of this newsletter is an article about common energy efficiency improvement measures. If you have completed at least 3 of them, initial those you completed, provide your contact information and FAX the completed form to UMS at (910) 793-2946.

In mid-October, we will randomly draw one response and send an iPad to that individual.
Ten Simple Steps

Here are ten simple steps you can take to conserve energy. Many of them apply at work and at home. They typically pay for themselves in less than two years.

☐ 1. Eliminate incandescent lighting. Incandescent lighting was state of the art in 1879. Now, it is obsolete. If you have any lamps or recessed lights with incandescent bulbs, replace them with compact fluorescent (CFL) or light emitting diode (LED) bulbs.

☐ 2. Upgrade T12 fluorescent lights. If your fluorescent bulbs are marked T12, it is time to upgrade. Consider high-efficiency T8, T5 or LED lighting.

☐ 3. Upgrade EXIT signs to LED. EXIT signs operate 24 hours/day, 365 days/year. Upgrading incandescent EXIT signs to LED pays for itself in less than a year.

☐ 4. Upgrade outside lighting to LED. If you lease lights for parking areas from your power provider, see if they will upgrade these lights to LED. By our request, the power provider upgraded our parking lot lights. These lights provide us with 60% more light for $5 less each month with no up-front costs.

☐ 5. Install occupancy sensors. Occupancy sensors detect motion and turn on lights. When there is no motion, the lights turn off. Install them in breakrooms, conference rooms, individual offices and other areas that are empty for extended periods.

☐ 6. Install and use programmable thermostats. Programmable thermostats automatically turn the temperature up or down when an area is not being used. This prevents unnecessary heating or cooling at night or on weekends when the facility is empty.

☐ 7. Replace air filters. Replacing air filters regularly improves the efficiency of your HVAC systems and your air quality. Consider using this newsletter as your quarterly reminder to replace air filters.

☐ 8. Install window film. Window film reduces the heat that comes into a building from the sun. This reduces air conditioning costs and damage from sunrays.

☐ 9. Eliminate surplus refrigerators and soft drink vending machines. Do you have refrigerators or soft drink vending machines that get limited use? Eliminating them will save about $120/year and the burning of 1,200 pounds of coal per year to produce the electricity.

☐ 10. Install vending misers on soft drink vending machines. These are simple to use, plug-in motion detectors for soft drink machines. They prevent soft drink vending machines from running when a facility is empty. When people are present, the machine runs regularly.

If you have done at least three of the above items, check the box for the ones you have completed, fill in the contact information below and fax this document to UMS at (910) 793-2946 for a chance to win an iPad in our October drawing.

Company Name: ____________________________

Contact Name: ____________________________ Phone or Email: ____________________________

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