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Coldstorage International
used a powerful analytical tool to
reduce energy bills by one third.

Open minds.

Coldstorage enjoys a seven-fold return

Expensive, high technology doesn't create energy efficiency: people and ideas do. By approaching problems with an open mind, you can make a lot of difference, for not a lot of money – as Tauranga-based Coldstorage International (now Fonterra, Mount Maunganui Cold Store) found.

By re-evaluating long-established operational processes they managed to reap a \$90,000 energy saving annually for a project outlay of around \$12,500 – a seven-fold return in one year.

Asking the right questions

Coldstorage was already taking advantage of a range of savings opportunities including variable energy and line charges.

Believing there is always scope to improve, senior management assembled an energy management team to challenge conventional thinking about the company's energy consumption practices.

The team found they could have a much wider range of temperatures in the cool rooms without affecting the dairy products they stored there. The difference was in not measuring room temperature, but rather the temperature of the products – which remained remarkably stable.

It meant they could switch the refrigeration plant off for most of the day, using only cheaper night operations. As a result, consumption has fallen from 3,310,000 kWh a year to around 2,050,000.

If your profitability could benefit from some open-minded energy thinking, we're here to help with Emprove. For more information, contact the business team, business@eeca.govt.nz, phone 0800 358 676 or visit www.emprove.org.nz

