

Library Services Center Cuts Energy Costs with Help from Citizens



The ability to manage a building's energy usage and cost of operations has become critical in our current economic climate. Energy usage is one of the biggest expenses for facility managers, and makes conservation a necessary component of budget management. The Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (IMCPL) recently completed a retro-fit project specifically designed to reduce energy usage at its administrative and processing headquarters, the Library Services Center at 2450 N. Meridian Street.

The 80,000-square-foot Library Services Center was completed in 1992. However, the facility's original constant volume reheat system was considered inefficient, and its boilers were operating well below the designed 80 percent efficiency specification when new. Through a

collaborative effort with Energy Solutions by JMS that included energy efficiency rebates from Citizens Gas, the team identified energy efficiency opportunities that significantly lowered the building's energy cost.

"Of foremost consideration to our operating budget was the substantial savings of over \$964,000 the Library Services Center will achieve over just the next six years of the project," said IMCPL CEO Laura Bramble. "These changes in our energy consumption will allow us to replicate the project at other Library locations for even greater savings in the future," she added.

The original constant volume reheat system was replaced with new variable air volume terminal units (VAV boxes), pneumatic controls were replaced with new digital controls, and one old cast iron non-condensing boiler was replaced with a new 90 percent efficient condensing boiler. In addition, variable frequency drives were added to existing air handling unit fans and pumps to vary the flow of air and water to the systems as needed.

Based on the projected therm* savings, a \$25,000 custom commercial energy efficiency rebate from Citizens Energy Savers program helped the IMCPL pay for the new system. In addition, a \$5,000 rebate was used for the boiler upgrade.

**therm - a unit of heat equal to 100,000 British thermal units (BTU) or about 97 cubic feet of natural gas.*

Citizens Debuts New Self-Service Website and Social Media Channels

Citizens Gas has launched a new self-service website to give our customers the ability to view and manage their natural gas accounts online. Customers now have the ability to view current and past bills, manage multiple accounts, apply for budget billing, and make payments under a single user name and password. Soon to be implemented updates include paperless billing, online chat with representatives, and improved payment options. Registration is quick and easy. Please visit www.citizensgas.com to register and begin using our new online tools.

Also, Citizens now has a presence on social media channels such as Facebook and Twitter. Keep up with the latest news and events following our Twitter feed at www.twitter.com/citizensenergy and becoming a fan of our Facebook page by visiting www.facebook.com/CitizensEnergyGroup.

Citizens Benefits from Department of Energy Award to Clean Cities Coalition



The Greater Indiana Clean Cities Coalition (GICCC) has announced it will oversee compressed natural gas infrastructure and vehicle projects as part of a \$10,125,000 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act award from the U.S. Department of Energy. Executive Director, Kellie Walsh, stated, "We are thrilled to have been one of the awardees selected for these highly competitive funds and I look forward to working with our nine project partners in the implementation of each of their projects. I especially look forward to continuing the partnership we have fostered with the Indiana Office of Energy Development, overseen by Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman, during the four-year project."

The GICCC's Comprehensive Alternative Fuels Implementation Plan known as No One Silver Bullet, but a lot of Silver BBs, deploys alternative fuels all across the alternative fuels

spectrum. The Coalition estimates the overall project will displace over one million gallons of petroleum annually, in addition to several hundred jobs being retained or gained as a result of this comprehensive alternative fuels project.

Citizens Gas, one of eight project partners, benefits from this award with funding assistance for the upgrade of their existing, public compressed natural gas fueling site, located at Greene's Auto and Truck Service on W. Raymond Street in Indianapolis. This upgrade will provide the additional storage and compression units to supply fuel for the fleets of two other project partners; Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) and the Marion County Sheriff's Department.

Clean Cities is a government-industry partnership that works to reduce America's petroleum consumption in the transportation sector. Over the last 15 years, the Clean Cities program has established local coalitions across the country; promoting the growth of alternative fuels and showcasing the potential of advanced and energy efficient vehicles.

Citizens Presents El Día de los Niños for 2010



Mike Strohl, Citizens' Vice President, Customer Relationships, helps children with Hispanic and Latino inspired arts and crafts at The Children's Museum's celebration of El Día de los Niños – the Day of the Children on April 25.

Citizens Energy Group was the presenting sponsor of The Children's Museum's celebration of El Día de los Niños – the Day of the Children on April 25. Over 9,500 visitors enjoyed a free day at the museum while celebrating Hispanic and Latino cultures through performances and family-based activities.

Citizens' employee volunteers shared energy conservation information with museum attendees, and tips on how to reduce their carbon footprints on jar openers made of retread tires. The volunteers also helped children with Hispanic and Latino inspired crafts, such as making Maracas, Tissue Paper Flowers and Guatemalan Worry Dolls.

We Can Help Reduce Your Business' Energy Costs

With the economy still slowly recovering from its problems over the past couple of years, businesses continue looking for opportunities to reduce their energy costs and operate at the most efficient level possible. Citizens Gas' sales consultants can assist your company to assure your business is maximizing the efficiency of your natural gas applications. Citizens Gas, along with the State of Indiana and Federal Government, has energy efficiency programs available to a broad range of customers to

encourage the transition to higher efficiency equipment, controls, and overall building systems and designs. So if you are thinking of building, renovating, or simply looking for opportunities to reduce utilities bills, contact your local Citizens Gas sales consultant to discuss what options your company might have available. To reach your consultant, please contact our Business 2 Business Call Center at 317-927-4328 from 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.