

YOUR BUILDING HAS BEEN BENCHMARKED. WHAT NOW?

You've powered through the process of benchmarking your building. This valuable information shows how your energy use measures up against peer buildings. The score was lower than you thought it would be. Now you're motivated to improve it - reducing energy use and costs. What do you do next?

Grab a cup of coffee, turn off your phone, and set aside one hour to answer these questions honestly:

Why did my building score the way it did?

What can be done differently on a daily basis to improve?
What resources/support do I need?

One year from now, what is the most significant difference I would like to see?
For example: a better score on Energy Star, a lower hydro bill, less wear and tear on systems, comfort year-long for tenants. What resources and support do I have/need?

These answers provide the outline of a plan to improve your building's efficiency.

Going forward, your options are plentiful and dependent on many factors including potential savings, building size, motivation of building owner and tenants, and internal resources. You may choose to: invest time in monitoring, set up a virtual assessment, conduct an audit, or hire a service provider.

Here's the good news: starting small is smart.

While each building presents unique efficiency challenges, there are many common simple fixes that are very rewarding. These no and low-cost solutions create, on average, a 5-30% savings and also improve tenant comfort. In Western Canada, the three most prevalent are:

- Stop over-ventilating (12% savings on average)
- Set proper temperature controls (8% savings on average)
- Use economizers as they were designed to be used (up to 12% savings)

For more ideas check out Aerco Industries' *Building Smarts* articles as well as *30 Easy Ways to Save Energy for Little or No Cost* from the BOMA Energy Efficiency Program (BEEP) education series, and Better Brick's one minute "Building Night Walk" videos.

Imagine the savings from even a 10% reduction in energy use for your building this year. Then consider using those savings, as many successful owners and managers do, to fund more involved service and capital projects over the long term. Your building will be more efficient for both the business *and* the environment.

**Questions about how to make your plan a reality?
Call Aerco Industries 1-800-663-0401 or visit www.aercoindustries.com**