

University of Connecticut

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UCONN's SmartBuildings CT

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- Andre Jin, BS Electrical Engineering student, Senior
- Daniel Perez, BS Mechanical Engineering student, Senior
- Jiovanni Kissi, BS Mechanical Engineering student, Junior
- Sponsored by Eversource Energy and United Illuminating through the ENERGIZE CT programs







What Is SmartBuildings CT?

- We work with commercial and industrial customers in Connecticut to provide information about the operation and maintenance of buildings and their systems to help building owners and operators:
 - Lower building energy usage and costs
 - Lower carbon emissions
 - Reduce water usage
 - Improve building occupant experience
 - Upgrade building data analysis methods and technologies
- Our work is focused on implementing systems and solutions that provide better information to decision-makers for investments, operations, and maintenance of buildings.
- Support EPA's Portfolio Manager online tool for commercial & industrial organizations in Connecticut.
- Help organizations setup EPA PM *automatic data exchange in their portfolios*.
- Provide education on building energy analytics: How to act on the data





How to Approach Building Energy Efficiency and Energy Management – At the Community Level

Step 1. Make Commitment: Energy, Environment & Building Occupant Health

Step 2. Assess Performance

Step 3. Set Goals

Step 4. Create Action Plan – ENERGIZE CT, CT Green Bank, contractors, and energy consultants Step 5. Implement Action Plan - Contractors, and Energy Consultants Step 6. Evaluate Progress Step 7. Recognize Achievements



Figure 1. ENERGY STAR Guidelines for Energy Management







State-Wide Status

Connecticut



We've Supported Since 2012

1.	Andover	19.	Essex	37.	Mansfield	55.	Somers
2.	Ansonia	20.	Fairfield	38.	Milford	56.	South Windsor
3.	Bloomfield	21.	Greenwich	39.	Monroe	57.	Southbury
4.	Bolton	22.	Glastonbury	40.	New Haven	58.	Stonington
5.	Branford	23.	Goshen	41.	New Milford	59.	Stratford
6.	Bridgeport	24.	Granby	42.	Newtown	60.	Tolland
7.	Brookfield	25.	Groton	43.	North Branford	61.	Trumbull
8.	Brooklyn	26.	Guilford	44.	Old Lyme	62.	Vernon
9.	Cheshire	27.	Hamden	45.	Old Saybrook	63.	Washington
10.	Chester	28.	Hartford	46.	Orange	64.	West Hartford
11.	Clinton	29.	Kent	47.	Plymouth	65.	West Haven
12.	Columbia	30.	Ledyard	48.	Pomfret	66.	Westbrook
13.	Cornwall	31.	Litchfield	49.	Portland	67.	Weston
14.	Darien	32.	Lyme	50.	Putnam	68.	Westport
15.	Deep River	33.	Manchester	51.	Ridgefield	69.	Woodbury
16.	Durham	34.	Marlborough	52.	Rocky Hill	70.	Wilton
17.	East Haven	35.	Middlebury	53.	Seymour		
18.	Easton	36.	Middletown	54.	Shelton		



Municipalities Supported in Attaining Sustainable CT Certifications for Energy Category (40):

	Fairfield	CLIMATE LEADER	Westport	SILVER	
(Glastonbury	CLIMATE LEADER	Wilton	SILVER	
	New Britain	CLIMATE LEADER	Bolton	BRONZE	
	Stratford	CLIMATE LEADER	Cheshire	BRONZE	
	West Hartford	CLIMATE LEADER	Chester	BRONZE	
	Darien	SILVER	Deep River	BRONZE	
	Essex	SILVER	Durham	BRONZE	
	Greenwich	SILVER	East Haddam	BRONZE	
	Guilford	SILVER	East Lyme	BRONZE	
	Hartford	SILVER	Goshen	BRONZE	
	Litchfield	SILVER	Groton	BRONZE	
	Manchester	SILVER	Lyme	BRONZE	
	Mansfield	SILVER	Pomfret	BRONZE	
	Milford	SILVER	Ridgefield	BRONZE	
	New Haven	SILVER	Rocky Hill	BRONZE	
	New Milford	SILVER	Southbury	BRONZE	
	Old Lyme	SILVER	Stonington	BRONZE	
	Old Saybrook	SILVER	Washington	BRONZE	
	Trumbull	SILVER	West Haven	BRONZE	
	Vernon	SILVER	Weston	BRONZE	





EPA PM Benchmarking Summary

The majority of the 3,012 buildings benchmarked have current data and are up-to-date through 2022.



Building Data Current for 3,012 Buildings





Types of Buildings Benchmarked



SMARTBUILDINGS CT

The majority of the 3,012 buildings benchmarked are municipal and K-12 schools



900

Assess Performance and Set Goals

What Building Energy Benchmarking Using a Portfolio Approach Can Do for Your Community





Portfolio Manager (PM) Capabilities

ENERGY TRACKING. Know how meters match to buildings. Know your total Site Energy kBtu by converting unlike units of energy usage (kWh, ccf, gallons). Know how your total building energy changes over time.

WEATHER NORMALIZATION. Know your Weather-Normalized Site Energy in kBtu. Know if changes in Site Energy are due to weather or performance of building.

GET YOUR BENCHMARK. Know your ENERGY STAR Rating or Energy Benchmark Comparison*

SHARE YOUR DATA. One internal shared database for building and energy information

STRATEGIC ENERGY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT. Select and plan projects. Correlate energy changes to projects.

GET RECOGNIZED. Share your achievements.





ENERGY STAR®

PortfolioManager®

Your Benchmark

Weather-Normalized Source EUI (kBtu/ft²) Why not score?

Current EUI: 328.7

(163.3% worse than median.)

Baseline EUI: 263.9

(111.4% worse than median.)

- Do I have a high performing or low performing building?
- Is my building performance improving since my baseline year?
- Should I perform a building audit to find out why my building is performing so poorly?
- I've installed EE measures, why is my building still performing so poorly?





Your Metrics Summary

Metrics Summary				
Metric 🦊	Jun 2011 (Energy 🥖 Baseline)	Jan 2019 (Energy 🥖 Current)	Change 📀	
ENERGY STAR Score (1-100)	43	97	54.00 (125.60%)	
Source EUI (kBtu/ft²)	144.4	63.0	-81.40 (-56.40%)	
Site EUI (kBtu/ft²)	75.0	26.6	-48.40 (-64.50%)	
Energy Cost (\$)	722,860.66	339,025.06	-383835.60 (-53.10%)	
Total GHG Emissions Intensity (kgCO2e/ft²)	5.6	1.8	-3.80 (-67.90%)	

- Do I have a high performing or low performing building?
- Is my building performance improving since my baseline year?
- How much money am I saving comparing any two years?
- What is my carbon footprint, and is it improving?
- Am I lowering my water and waste usage?





Energy Use Trend



- What fuels are used in my building?
- Are my heating and cooling peaks increasing or decreasing over time?
- How large is my cooling peak during the summer?
- Do I have a problem with my heating system?





Example: What you can learn – Goal Setting

Understand the Benchmark and Goal Setting

Metrics Comparison for Your Property & Your Target / Change Time Period

Metric	Nov 30 2013 (Energy 🥖 Baseline)	Jan 31 2019 (Energy 🥖 Current)	Target*	Median Property*
ENERGY STAR score(1-100)	13	11	75	50
Source EUI(kBtu/ft²)	164.5	175.0	87.3	113.5
Site EUI(kBtu/ft²)	69.0	73.0	36.5	47.4
Source Energy Use(kBtu)	8995077.9	9569423.1	4775858.3	6207423.3
Site Energy Use(kBtu)	3773766.4	3994329.5	1993469.5	2591012.6
Energy Cost(\$)	140799.21	154936.81	77325.07	100503.28
Total GHG Emissions(Metric Tons CO2e)	263.2	279.2	139.3	181.1

* To compute the metrics at the target and median levels of performance, we will use the fuel mix associated with your property's current energy use.

- How can I set practical goals?
- Why is my ENERGY STAR rating so low compared to similar properties?
- How much energy do I need to save to attain ENERGY STAR certification?
- How much money could I save annually if I achieve a median rating or an ENERGY STAR rating?





Energy Usage By Building



- Which buildings are my highest energy users?
- Where should I focus my effort?













UConn Industrial Assessment Center

Liang Zhang, Director Amy Thompson, Director of Operations Ravi Gorthala, Assistant Director

University of Connecticut, Storrs

Mission of the SNE-IAC

The mission of our center is:

- To offer free and comprehensive audit and consulting services to small-tomedium manufacturers (SMMs) for saving energy, reducing water usage, minimizing industrial waste, strengthening cyber security, reducing carbon footprint, adopting renewable energy, and improving productivity;
- To train students in improving industrial energy efficiency through hands-on, real-world experience by conducting student team assessments of SMEs; and
- To provide outreach and education opportunities to nonparticipating SMEs. The proposed IAC will focus its service on the dense Southern New England/Southern NY regions, including Connecticut, Rhode Island, Long Island, New York City, and southeastern New York, and can serve a 150-mile radius from UConn campus.





Types of Energy Efficiency Measures

- 2.1321 REPLACE FOSSIL FUEL EQUIPMENT WITH ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
- 2.1332 CONVERT FUEL OIL COMBUSTION EQUIPMENT TO BURN NATURAL GAS
- 2.2122 INSTALL / REPAIR INSULATION ON CONDENSATE LINES
- 2.2511 INSULATE BARE EQUIPMENT
- 2.2622 REPLACE EXISTING CHILLER WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY MODEL
- 2.3141 USE BATTERY STORAGE FOR DEMAND CONTROL
- 2.3192 USE FOSSIL FUEL POWERED GENERATOR DURING PEAK DEMAND PERIODS
- 2.3415 USE A FOSSIL FUEL ENGINE TO COGENERATE ELECTRICITY OR MOTIVE POWER; AND UTILIZE HEAT
- 2.4133 USE MOST EFFICIENT TYPE OF ELECTRIC MOTORS
- 2.4146 USE ADJUSTABLE FREQUENCY DRIVE OR MULTIPLE SPEED MOTORS ON EXISTING SYSTEM
- 2.4221 INSTALL COMPRESSOR AIR INTAKES IN COOLEST LOCATIONS
- 2.4231 REDUCE THE PRESSURE OF COMPRESSED AIR TO THE MINIMUM REQUIRED
- 2.4323 USE OPTIMUM SIZE AND CAPACITY EQUIPMENT
- 2.6218 TURN OFF EQUIPMENT WHEN NOT IN USE
- 2.6231 UTILIZE CONTROLS TO OPERATE EQUIPMENT ONLY WHEN NEEDED
- 2.7134 USE PHOTOCELL CONTROLS
- 2.7135 INSTALL OCCUPANCY SENSORS
- 2.7142 UTILIZE HIGHER EFFICIENCY LAMPS AND/OR BALLASTS
- 2.7229 AIR CONDITION ONLY SPACE NECESSARY
- 2.7232 REPLACE EXISTING HVAC UNIT WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY MODEL
- 2.7234 USE HEAT PUMP FOR SPACE CONDITIONING
- 2.7493 USE DOUBLE OR TRIPLE GLAZED WINDOWS TO MAINTAIN HIGHER RELATIVE HUMIDITY AND TO REDUCE HEAT LOSSES
- 2.8114 CHANGE RATE SCHEDULES OR OTHER CHANGES IN UTILITY SERVICE
- 2.9114 USE SOLAR HEAT TO MAKE ELECTRICTY







Managing Demand and Charges

Overview and Examples

Electrical Demand

- Demand charges are based on highest rate of consumption during a billing period.
- Demand charge purpose is to charge grid capacity to customers to drive reducing grid operating costs.
- Demand charges designed to recover investments in generating plants, transmission systems (volt lines and substations), and distribution systems (distribution transformer)
- Utility Companies are required by law to maintain a "spinning reserve" to account for potential power spikes
- Lowering demand peak decreases costs for both consumers and providers (Demand Reduction-Induced Price Effects)
 - Less need for construction of new power plants and power delivery systems to meet increasing demand
 - Lessens strain on electrical grid and carbon dioxide emissions







Electrical Demand Calculations

- Demand Example: Fifty 100-Watt light bulbs all turned on = 5,000 Watts and Total Demand is 5 kW
- Obtained by utility measuring energy consumed in sequential 15-minute periods throughout the billing period [2]
 - Maximum consumption converted to average rate in kilowatts (kW)
- Peak Demand multiplied by demand cost factor to obtain Demand Charge [2]
 - Demand Cost Factor can vary depending on location, supplier, and whether on-peak (daytime) or off-peak (nighttime)
- Ratchet Demand: utility charge based on highest demand billed over past 12 months





Electrical Demand



• Both customers have same electricity usage, but Customer 1 had a higher peak load and will pay a higher demand charge – will pay more for energy





Electrical Demand

- Demand Charge added to consumption costs to obtain monthly cost [2]
 - Can often be up to 50% of total electric bill
- Utility Companies charge for demand to encourage reduction in power spikes





[2]-HowToPerformAssessments-SelfAssessment



Demand Management: Cut and/or Shift

- Does the rate schedule of your buildings show a demand charge? Is there information on the bill of when the demand peak occurred?
- If the demand peak is well above the rate of consumption, monitoring and minimizing demand can reduce excess peak costs by about 15% [2]
- Want to even out peaks and valleys of energy consumption
- Active Resource: reduction that is dispatched that must respond to electric system operator during shortage event
- Passive Resource: reduction during pre-defined hours/periods







Demand Peak Reduction

- Starting of small motors are staggered and large motors are electronically controlled [2]
- Placing sequencers on air conditioning systems will prevent more than one turning on at a time [2]
- Slow start devices can help limit the current that a large motor can draw [2]
- Use thermal energy storage for off-peak rates [4]
 - Heat Water/Make Ice during off-peak hours and store for later use
- Reducing light usage/use higher efficiency bulbs [4]





[2]-HowToPerformAssessments-SelfAssessment [4]-Most_Commonly_Identified_Recommendations



Demand Peak Reduction

- Installation of a demand meter (about \$2,500) [2]
 - With a 15% reduction in demand peak, cost of installation would quickly be covered
- Moving operations to off-peak hours [4]
 - Recharge batteries during off-peak
- Staggering shifts/breaks [2]
 - Schedule maintenance during non-operating hours
 - Overlap custodial services with normal day hours
- Use batteries for demand control and power quality issues [6]
- Use fossil fuel powered generator during peak demand periods [6]



[2]-HowToPerformAssessments-SelfAssessment [4]-Most_Commonly_Identified_Recommendations [6]-IAC_ARC_Codes_2019





Demand Response Programs – How They Work

- Allows utility companies to balance supply and demand and lower rates for consumers
- May offer time-of-use pricing, critical peak pricing, variable peak pricing, real time pricing, or critical peak rebates
- Direct Load Control: allows provider to cycle air conditioners and water heaters on/off during periods of peak demand in exchange for financial incentive and lower electric bills for consumers
- Grid modernization makes demand response more important and feasible
 - Example: Sensors can find peak load problems and automatic switching can divert or reduce power reducing the chance of overload and power failure







Demand Response Programs – Benefits

- In recent years, New England utilities have been able to reduce 300 MW of load during peak demand
- Usually reduce energy use or use energy generated and stored in a battery during high demand periods
- Option to work with curtailment service providers for demand response equipment and services
 - Incentive payment would be split with CSP if you work with them
- Residential or small business customers are eligible to enroll in smart thermostats, EV chargers, or home battery storage systems
- Industrial customers are eligible to directly enroll their battery or thermal storage system





https://energizect.com/explore-solutions/demand-responseand-smart-devices/demand-response



Eversource Demand Response

- Program utilizes ConnectedSolutions
 - Options include energy storage, advanced controls, and active monitoring
- Lower electricity usage via personalized solution when Eversource calls a peak demand event
 - Notification of peak demand event will be sent out 24 hours in advance
- Incentive payment based on average kilowatt reduction over the season
 - Range from \$25 to \$200 per average kilowatt reduction
 - No penalties for nonperformance

EVERSURCE



https://www.eversource.com/content/business/save-moneyenergy/energy-efficiency-programs/demand-response



UI Demand Response

- Automated Demand Response Program for businesses
- Program representative will help determine optimal load reduction strategies
- Reduction event declared up to 15 times per calendar year
- Can either reduce demand or shift to off-peak hours (automated load reduction available)
- Incentive of \$50 per average kW reduced
- No penalty for nonparticipation in a reduction event





https://uibusinessdemandresponse.com/wpcontent/uploads/2022/03/United-Illuminating-Automated-Demand-Response-Brochure-032022.pdf



Closing Thoughts

- If your municipality isn't investigating building energy efficiency, every hour of every day you are missing energy savings and lost \$ in savings
- You can use energy efficiency incentives, rebates, and tax incentives to help reduce energy and demand. You can use these funds to upgrade your facilities.
- With smart, energy efficient buildings, you can make your indoor air environment and air quality better for occupants and create *healthier environments*.
- You can make your buildings more resilient to disturbances by adding alternative fuel sources and renewables.
- Large amount of federal \$ through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Grant
 Programs
- Connecticut has many services and support programs available to municipalities:
 - ENERGIZE CT, Eversource, United Illuminating Statewide EE Programs
 - CT Green Bank and CT DEEP
 - Non-Profits or No-Cost Resources: Sustainable CT, RCOGs, others
 - Private energy efficiency consultants and contractors
 - UConn Resources: CIRCA, SmartBuildings CT, Eversource Energy Center







Engage Participate Help Lead Find Collaborators Reach Out Get funded Teach Learn



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