

Cost Savings from Photovoltaic (PV) Installations

Key achievements:

- A UK-based industrial property owner was able to generate significant **savings on its energy consumption (and hence energy bills)** by installing PV technology;
- Though the business funded the PV installation itself, there are now opportunities available to secure funding for the installation of such equipment from external sources, who fund it in return for the benefit of the Feed in Tariffs which they can receive in return. Effectively this means that it is now possible for both landlord and tenant to **receive the benefit of reduced energy costs for no financial outlay themselves.**

These results can be replicated across businesses of all sectors

PV cells convert sunlight into electricity, which can be used to run buildings. They don't need direct sunlight to work and so you can still generate electricity on a cloudy day. Typically PV installations have at least a 30 year life.



Installing photovoltaic's (PV) onto the roof of your building, or area of land near to your building, can provide significant cost savings for your business in terms of energy consumption. The level of saving will be dependant on the amount of energy your business currently uses, as well as the size of roof space you have available to serve as installation space.

The installation of photovoltaic's can be costly (typically with a payback period of around 10 years). In return for installing them however, the investor can receive the benefit of Feed in Tariffs (FIT). FIT's are targeted at promoting businesses to invest in 'green' technologies and are effectively payments made by the Government to the owner of the PV for all electricity generated by the system, as well as an additional payment if any is exported back to the national grid.

Finance is often available for PV schemes for properties with enough Southern facing roof space to accommodate a 50Kw scheme (which is now the maximum size available for the full Feed in Tariff following recent Government changes). Schemes of this type cost in the region of £100K to £150K and would generate in the region of 40,000 kwh per annum.

How can you adapt these principles for your business?

- There is a huge opportunity for businesses to exploit this situation, **obtaining funding from an external party for the implementation of the PV at no cost to the business itself**, yet allowing the business to received the benefit of a 'free' energy'
- There is also the added opportunity to obtain additional income through actually **charging the funding party for 'rental' of the roof space** onto which they have installed to PV