

# iVolt® schools programme saves council thousands

iVolt's work with Amey leads to a successful five school rollout in Paisley ...

RENFREWSHIRE Council is set to shave thousands of pounds off its annual energy bills after adopting iVolt's technology in five primary schools.

The authority was advised to install the advanced voltage optimisation systems by the Built Environment division of Amey, a UK-wide infrastructure support service provider, which manages a portfolio of properties on behalf of Renfrewshire Council, among other government and private sector clients that deliver transport, social and environmental services to the public.

The five schools, dotted around the town of Paisley, near Glasgow, were each spending between £16,000-£24,000 a year on electricity bills, and generating carbon emissions totaling around 572 metric tonnes.

With the iVolt system in place, the power supply to the sites has been reduced from between 240-245V to a steady 220V – the level at which electrical equipment is designed to work best. With savings across the sites now averaging nearly 6%, the schools are not only set to reduce their impact on the environment to the tune of 31 metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e a year, but will lower the council's energy bills by £6-7,000.

Grahame Duguid, the Controls & Energy Manager for Amey Built Environment's Education Scotland division, described the savings as "very pleasing" and praised iVolt for the "seamless" installation process.

"The preparation works for the installations were carried out during term time and the final installations then took place in the school holidays to ensure there were no disruptions to learning and development at all," he said. "There were no issues. It is very important to have good suppliers that get things right the first time and I can definitely say that was the case with iVolt."

Designed and produced at the company's headquarters near Heathrow Airport, the iVolt is an advanced, variable voltage optimisation system that lowers a site's incoming voltage



to reduce energy consumption, remove the risk of power surges and brownouts and increase the performance and lifespan of equipment.

As well as bringing direct financial savings, it lowers carbon emissions and reduces maintenance and servicing costs in the long term by protecting electrical equipment.

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Grahame Duguid  
Controls & Energy Manager  
Amey

Named one of 30 British businesses with "world class potential" by *The Daily Telegraph*, iVolt's system differs from other manufacturers' as it uses pioneering new technology to monitor savings as they happen, with a patented Intelligent Real Time Energy Monitor. This integrated device, which can be linked to

a cloud-based GPRS system, enables facility managers to see from the comfort of their desk the electricity a site is using – and saving.

Those managing a portfolio of properties – such as Amey - can track multiple sites and see which are the best and worst performing at any given time.

"I was looking for a product that would not only provide carbon reductions and cost savings, but that would be reliable and the ROI of the iVolt was very attractive: The fact that the savings are guaranteed is very reassuring," added Mr Duguid.

The iVolt's energy monitoring capabilities and higher than average savings have led to multi-million pound contracts across the private and public sector, with clients including Wm Morrison Supermarkets plc, J Sainsbury plc, Gatwick Airport, East Midland Trains, The Co-operative, Booker and Youngs Brewery as well as hotel and restaurant chains, charities, factories, hospitals and schools.

The sites involved in the initial Renfrewshire Council rollout are Fordbank, Glencoats, Woodlands, Todholm and West Johnstone primary schools.

**PROJECT/CUSTOMER:**  
Renfrewshire Council

**IVOLT UNIT SIZE**  
150A

**YEAR OF INSTALL:**  
2013

**ENERGY SAVING**  
average 5.85%

**ANNUAL kWh CONSUMPTION**  
1,090,547kWhr (total)

**CO2 EMISSIONS REDUCTION**  
30.73 metric tonnes

The iVolt® was designed in the UK and production takes place at its facility near Heathrow Airport. The company is part of the global Sollatek group and is accredited to ISO9001:2008



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON IVOLT:

**T:** 0845 075 8580

**E:** [info@ivoltsystems.co.uk](mailto:info@ivoltsystems.co.uk)

**W:** [www.ivoltsystems.co.uk](http://www.ivoltsystems.co.uk)