



Energy audit requirement for large enterprises: Identifying and leveraging saving opportunities

At a glance

What?	Improve engineering and efficiency of corporate energy supply systems
For whom?	Large enterprises with at least 250 employees, annual revenue of more than EUR 50 million or annual total assets of more than EUR 43 million
How?	Legal requirement for energy audits
When?	First audit by 5 December 2015, then every four years

Brief look at the energy audit requirement

In November 2014, the Federal Cabinet approved a law that will require large enterprises to carry out energy audits. The law is an important step not only in transposing the EU Energy Efficiency Directive into national law, but also in reaching the German energy savings targets. This is because energy audits enable companies to better identify potential for in-house energy savings and invest in targeted programs. As a result, they not only help to conserve energy – they also improve their competitive position. Energy audits are already being used at many companies to

improve the engineering and efficiency of corporate energy supply systems.

The law will require large enterprises to carry out an energy audit by 5 December 2015 and repeat it every four years. The bill is under discussion in the upper and lower houses of the German Parliament. The aim is for the law to take effect in spring 2015.

Key requirements one by one

- 1.) All large enterprises with at least 250 employees, annual revenue of more than EUR 50 million or annual total assets of more than EUR 43 million will be required to carry out an energy audit by 5 December 2015 and repeat it every four years. This obligation does not apply to large enterprises that have adopted a certain energy or environmental management system by 5 December 2015. Large enterprises may also exempt themselves by adopting an energy or environmental management system that meets the legal requirements by the cut-off date. The energy audit must meet the requirements of DIN EN 16247-1 and be based on current operations data.
- 2.) The energy audit must be carried out independently. In other words, the auditor must advise the company without having any manufacturer, supplier or distributor bias. If the audit is conducted by a company employee, this person must not be directly involved in the audited activity.
- 3.) The Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control will conduct random checks at individual companies, during which the companies will have to prove that a proper energy audit was carried out.



Learn more

Read up on the bill
www.bmwi.de

Full story on the EU Energy Efficiency Directive
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