

Case study – BWA Auto

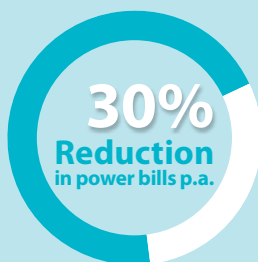


Save on power bills with solar power

BWA Auto is saving more than \$2300 a year through installing an efficient industrial parts washer with a subsidy from the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program.

Energy saving solutions

- Installed an energy efficient industrial parts washer
- Replaced workshop lights with fluorescent lighting
- Installed solar panels

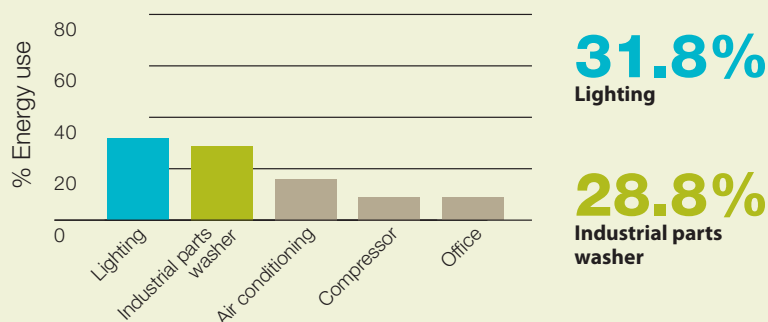


Power bill cut by \$2300 p.a.

Energy use profile

An energy assessment revealed that lighting was the main energy user at the car service and repair centre, closely followed by the industrial parts washer and air conditioning.

Top 5 energy uses



In brief

Location: Western Sydney NSW

BWA Auto in Seven Hills opened in 1976 to provide service and repairs for European vehicles.

Specialising in German motor vehicles (Porsche, Audi, BMW, Mercedes and Volkswagen), Bob Whyms recognised a need for quality spare parts. BWA Auto has become the largest Australian aftermarket Porsche supplier of new parts outside the dealer network.

Bob found out about the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program through a visit from an energy assessor.

'The Program is great for small businesses. With energy costs going up the Program provides a way to carry on with business while keeping costs down.'

Bob Whyms, Owner



► BWA Auto's story

Receiving a \$5000 subsidy, owner Bob Whyms was able to implement projects recommended in his Energy Action Plan.

As a busy service centre providing repairs and spare parts for luxury German cars, keeping energy costs down is a key consideration. Bob's action plan focused on replacing an inefficient industrial parts washer with a more energy efficient version, and installing solar panels to support the high voltage power supply required for the washer.

'I have a high electricity bill so I installed solar panels to a 10 kilowatt hour maximum. Now we have a computer controlled battery charger which keeps the washer at a consistent temperature and the solar panels offset the energy used to maintain the industrial parts washer,' said Bob.

'Our team have noticed a huge difference. Now they don't have to worry about powering up the washer an hour earlier to have it ready for work.'

Encouraged by the difference the solar power made, Bob also replaced the workshop, reception and office lights with fluorescent lighting.

'The Program is a great idea for small businesses. With energy costs going up it provides a way to carry on with business while keeping costs down.'

Your next step

To find out how your business can access support contact the Energy Saver team

Email energysaver@environment.nsw.gov.au

Call 1300 361 967

Visit environment.nsw.gov.au/business