M3D1   Research a case study that describes how an energy service vendor has helped a company or institutions manage their energy use by using utility bill data tracking software and online services.  Write a 300 word summary of the case study. Include your opinions of the recommendations given to lower energy costs.

Cenergistic (Cenergistic, n.d.) bills itself as “The Energy Conservation Company”. Their business involves a matrix approach involving Organizational Behavior Science; EnergyCAP web-based Accounting, Data Collection and Analysis Software suite; Optimization of Current Infrastructure; and Propreitary Technologies with Active Management derived from Client Staff and an Energy Specialist.

The company claims thousands of clients saving millions of dollars and sustaining the planet into eternity. When a client enrolls for service, Cenergistic sends a team of experts to baseline the existing plant, interview key stakeholders, and establish a plan. Trend analysis demonstrates where costs have gone up or down, enabling clients to identify and modify behaviors to achieve goals. The US Government Efficiency Evaluation Organization serves as a standardized structure for cross-platform comparisons. Reports from the software serve as “…the bridge between Accounting and Maintenance…” because they allow side-by-side comparison of year-over-year-same-month usage, enabling specific inquiry into why a bill went up or down compared to the past. Weather and other conditions like changing price rates are factored out of results, preventing attribution of climate change in place of colloquial human factors.

Cenergistic claims to have assisted over 4200 buildings become rated as Energy Star compliant. A joint effort between the US Department of Energy and the US Environmental Protection Agency, Energy Star evaluates applicant buildings on size, location, occupancy, equipment, and other parameters; and holds standards for efficiency. Displaying the Energy Star logo is a status of pride for building managers, and may influence tight-budgeted or easily-impressed clientele. Those seeking to minimize costs for tenancy will appreciate that the building doesn’t waste energy and raise rent rates or pass along unnecessarily high electric bills because of silly things like non-low-E glass windows. Other clientele, less discerning and steeped in popular media culture, may be influenced to seek tenancy because of the purported social good being in a government approved and labeled “compliant” building.

Cenergistic works exclusively for school districts, colleges and universities, health care institutions, and ministries. This, coupled with the relative difficulty in finding an actual case study, leave one to question their viability in a commercial environment. Any range of things may prevent their going into commercial markets, but it does raise questions about why. Nonetheless, Cenergistic’s billing structures are set up to not cost up-front money, but to justify value through the data collection and assessment software minus environmental and client initiative savings (like changing to LED lamps), and get paid out of the client’s actual savings. This writer finds this cost-recuperation-before-pay scheme a breath of fresh air.

Again, actual case studies are not forthcoming from the Cenergistic website, but testimonials from clients include statements of millions of dollars saved from the first year of involvement. One client’s Stewardship Award cited their having saved 47,870 trees in 26 months – which seems a bit out of scope for the software as described by the programmers, but in a world that takes allegations of the global warming hoax tragically seriously, the correlation is probably stronger than anything annotated on Mikey Mann’s vaunted Hockey Stick Graph (McKitrick, R.). In actual terms, the press release states that the school in question posted, “…from July to October of 2013, the energy savings was 25.94 percent, which translated into a savings of $73,439.03”

The fuzzy math used by “journalist” Bonnie Lill in The Steward Houston Times to get to the trees works like this. “By preventing the equivalent of 1,872 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions, it is as though 366 cars were removed from the road, or 47,870 pine trees were grown for 10 years.”

(I wonder if Ms. Lill accounted for the carbon released from the soil (Reicosky, D., 1999) while planting those pine trees in her annual carbon footprint calculations, or if her model, like Dr. Mann’s referenced above (which lacked data AND has corrupting algorithms preloading desired results), is sadly deficient, as are all climate prediction and carbon footprint evaluation models by their very nature?)

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