



EVENT DESCRIPTION

Project Partner: OÖ Energiesparverband (ESV)

Title of the event: Technical site visit - LED street lighting

Date & location: 21 October 2014, Upper Austria

Organiser(s): OÖ Energiesparverband

Number of Participants: 14

Summary

The aim of the technical site visit was to provide the principle know-how about LED street lighting and to permit participants to gain insight into the possibility of implementing streetlight refurbishment with Energy Performance Contracting (EPC).

An overview of the most relevant aspects of LED technology and EPC was presented by lighting experts and an ESCO (Energy Service Company) that conducts street lighting EPC projects in the region. The group, consisting of 14 participants, also visited 4 LED street lighting installations in Upper Austria. At each location, project managers presented the technical, economic and organisational aspects of their project. A focus was put on the presentation of successful real life projects in Upper Austria and the exchange of experience between presenters and participants.

The technical site visit was targeted at persons who are involved with energy issues within municipalities. Participants included chief municipal officers, heads of construction departments, members of environmental committees and technical staff.

Objectives & main programme points

The aim of the event was to offer information on the technical aspects of LED street lighting while permitting participants to visit the installations and discuss with the project manager in charge of each project. The short seminar that acted as an introduction to the day also included information on EPC as a financing option.

After the short seminar, the group visited the following sites:

- the "Light Street" in the city of Wels where various lighting technologies and LED luminaires have been set up by the city's electricity utility (which also acts as an ESCO)

- the LED street lighting installations of 4 municipalities in Upper Austria (2 of which were implemented with EPC)
- a company specialised in the production of motion-activated LED lighting ("Light On Demand" (LOD) Technology) and the installation in their company parking lot.

Participants took advantage of the interactive nature of the event and engaged in active conversation with speakers and experts.

Conclusions & lessons learnt (based on stakeholder input)

The training seminar showed that municipalities are actively looking for solutions for the refurbishment of their aging street lighting systems and the challenges this represents. The benefit of LED streetlight refurbishment is huge for municipalities and EPC offers a very interesting way to overcome the major barrier of lacking initial capital. This is made apparent by the increasing number of successfully implemented LED streetlight installations in Upper Austria. Increasing knowledge and confidence in EPC is a key factor to further increasing the market uptake of street lighting EPC. Therefore, the tools developed within the Streetlight-EPC project will be very helpful in the next phase of the project.

The feedback received was very positive: all participants evaluated the event as good/very good. The diversity of installations visited, the professional expertise, and the direct contact to project managers within the municipalities were appreciated most by participants. For further improvement, it was suggested that conducting the site visit in the evening would permit to observe the street lighting during operation hours. The participants contributed actively during the event.

This type of event offers an ideal platform to promote the benefits of LED street lighting and EPC as a way to achieve energy efficient investment. It showcases the increasing number of implemented LED street lighting installation and encourages valuable exchange of experience between project managers, ESCOs and municipalities interested in following suit.