

Barriers for energy Efficiency

Title:

Failure or Poor performance of the energy saving retrofits or equipment supplied by the vendors due to inferior quality or improper application

Category:

On the fly adjustment of technologies and equipment

Summary:

The energy saving retrofits which were incorporated after recommended by the audit firms if fails due to any reasons (such as inferior quality or improper application, etc.) then first the audit firm is blamed.

Back ground:

Normally, in any audit the firm suggests at least three reliable or reputed vendors/suppliers who can supply equipment with required quality. More over in the audit report the how to implement will be given in detail.

Since the quality is good, the retrofits suggested are of higher cost when compared to other local suppliers, this higher cost will be considered for techno-economic evaluation. In many cases actual practice the plant identifies the vendors locally who can supply the similar type equipment at low cost.

After the implementation in many cases these retrofits were failed due to many reasons such as improper sizing, poor quality, technology adopted, location, poor attention given, lack of expertise, etc. Hence plant will revert back to original situation. Very few examples of the such equipment which normally fall under this category are

Retrofit	Common causes of failure
Combustion control system	Poor quality, improper location, poor monitoring
Recuperators	Poor quality, back pressure, poor maintenance
Electronic chokes	Poor quality, not many with stand to voltage variations prevailed
Flat belts	Error done in implementation
Capacitors	Poor quality
Steam traps or automatic drain traps	Poor monitoring after installing or replacement

There are so many other retrofits which fail due to many factors which are uncontrolled by the auditors.

Message learnt:

It the suggestion given by the auditor get success after installing the retrofit then the most of the credit normally goes to equipment supplier. If is failed then auditor will be blamed. Hence it **very essential that in case of failure, the auditor should be called to analyze the failure so that it will not repeat again.**