Benchmarking and Transparency Results in Efficiency Investments

A majority of buildings are making operational changes and investing in new energy-efficient equipment in response to NYC’s benchmarking and transparency ordinance, according to a survey of facility managers in New York City.

What Are Benchmarking and Transparency Policies?

Building energy benchmarking and transparency ordinances require large buildings to measure and disclose their energy performance on an annual basis.

As a result of NYC’s benchmarking and transparency ordinance:

**Made Operational Changes**

- Trained Building Staff: 51%
- Stopped Heating and Cooling Simultaneously: 51%
- Calibrated Building Automation Systems: 40%
- Educated Building Occupants: 40%
- Made No Changes: 23%
- Optimized Variable Air Volume Box Flow: 22%
- Added or Optimized Chiller Staging: 20%
- Other: 7%

**Invested in New Equipment**

- Lighting: 46%
- Heating: 45%
- Lighting Controls: 42%
- Energy Management System: 40%
- Cooling: 40%
- Made No Investment Management: 25%
- Plug Load Management: 16%
- Daylighting: 15%
- Building Envelope: 11%
- Other: 1%

These results are from a survey conducted March 16–April 26, 2016 of 151 New York City facility managers conducted by NEMA/Business Information Services with panel support from Bizpinion and Research Now on behalf of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA).