



# Army Saves Energy While Keeping Cool

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Bert Ring, 145 Brigade Energy Adviser

Army Case Study

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Energy saving initiatives haven't escaped the attention of HM armed forces, particularly in Aldershot where the Headquarters of the Army's 145 Brigade have recently installed a number of energy saving devices to fridges, freezers and air conditioning systems in a number of barracks.

Spurred into action by the government's energy saving campaign, aimed at all public sector organisations, the brigade energy advisor at Aldershot Garrison in Hampshire assessed the suitability of devices that can be retro-fitted to existing refrigeration units. The SavaControl is an intelligent switching unit that typically delivers reductions of between 10% and 30% in electricity consumption. Having piloted the devices manufactured by Warwickshire based SavaWatt (UK) Ltd, the Headquarters was impressed with the simplicity of installation, as well as the savings that could be made in energy costs.

145 Brigade, the largest in the area, has so far fitted over 450 SavaControls to refrigeration and air conditioning equipment throughout six barracks. Available in single and three phase models, SavaControls save energy in two ways. By intelligently switching off the refrigeration motor a hundred times every second, the input power is matched to the actual power requirement of the system. No energy is wasted while the compressor motor is operating under part load. A second energy saving benefit is achieved through improving the part load efficiency of the motors, thereby ensuring that less power is used.

SavaWatt is a market leader in reducing electricity costs and limiting the emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases into the environment through the use of its SavaControl units on AC induction motors. SavaControls are energy modulation devices which optimise the power consumed by AC induction motors to any given load on the motor. By using special timing and feedback mechanisms protected by patents in the UK and overseas, SavaControls are unique in the marketplace and have been manufactured in the UK since 1985.

SavaWatt also produce a range of other energy saving products. SavaWatt is a world leader in energy saving controls and have had the privilege of working with many well-known companies like BT, Vodafone, McDonalds and Tesco, to name just a few.

## In Bert Ring's own words:

*"Our main driver was reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, derived through lower energy consumption" states Bert Ring, the Brigade's energy advisor. "We were initially looking for a payback period of around two years and have been pleasantly surprised to find that, in some cases, this has been reduced to just 14 months."*

