

A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH IN BUSINESS ENERGY SAVING

Business Scotland unveils IRT Survey's groundbreaking software, Envision, which enables energy loss to be photograph - for the first time ever.

The market for 'green energy' has become somewhat crowded in recent times, so much so that it's becoming increasingly rare to come across a business that is doing something that is genuinely unique.

Recently, however, I did just that in the form of IRT Surveys, a Dundee-based business which I am confidently tipping for great things in the coming years. Why? Well, put simply, it has developed a family of groundbreaking, cutting edge technology solutions which are providing answers to very real and growing business issues.

At the heart of IRT's business model is its groundbreaking software, Envision. Envision, which has been patented and is now being licensed around the world, enables energy loss to be photographed - for the first time ever. It enables thermal images to be quantified for energy loss - allowing both business and domestic clients to literally see just how much energy they are losing from their building. This visibility means clients can rank and rate their buildings - helping prioritise their refurbishment programme and providing a known return on investment ahead of any capital expenditure.

Stewart Little is CEO of IRT Surveys. He says: "I would liken what we do to taking a sniper rifle approach to carbon. We can offer clients a tangible, accurate view of energy loss. Our solution is inexpensive, non-destructive and very simple to understand, using as it does a traffic light system to relate degrees of energy loss."

QUANTIFIABLE

Envision software allows quantification of thermal images and takes known, recognised, government standards such as SBEM and SAP and incorporates their criteria to create an accurate view of a building's performance.

Little makes the key point that traditional energy auditing tools generally assume buildings are built perfectly. "Envision adds reality to the theory by adding quantified images of the thermal performance of the building," he says.

Universities, colleges, airports, hospitals, cinemas, office blocks, police stations and shopping centres have all benefitted from IRT's quantified reports. "We have experience of most construction types and can provide clients with comprehensive reports detailing

energy performance in a simple and graphic manner," Little adds. "This means clients can rank and rate their portfolio and enables a targeted refurbishment programme with an interactive and known return on investment."

IRT has already been asked to quantify buildings across the world from America to Australia, Dubai to Aberdeen. The firm has also surveyed thousands of homes as well as some of the UK's largest companies and local authorities to help them maximise their grant funding.

In all, in excess of 180,000 domestics have been quantified with the software while more than 1,000 commercial buildings have been ranked and rated.

CARBON DASHBOARD

IRT has also developed the carbon dashboard (www.irtcarbodash.co.uk) an interactive dynamic energy simulation tool which exists as an online portal. It allows users to play with their building fabric quickly and easily, demonstrating potential savings.

DEFECT DETECTION

The underlying technology of Envision can also be used to identify defect detection in buildings. An infrared survey will provide clients with a detailed, impartial report highlighting exactly where any problems lies in their premises - and just how big they are. Whether you are tracking a leak, buying/selling a building, or simply looking for a cost effective refurbishment solution, IRT can help you make the decision independently.

Says Little: "Infrared surveys can provide images of elevations, revealing energy loss, ingress, drafts, porous brickwork and delamination. Elevation surveys often go hand-in-hand with our roof surveys - provide a holistic approach to your building's envelope performance. We can help clients to identify badly fitting windows, drafty casements, moisture ingress at junctions and details and identify poor vacuum seals. Our reports will accurately identify problems - and reveal their extent."

Infrared can also be utilised to identify problems with damp proof membranes, locate ingress, identify burst pipes and track underfloor heating pipes. Any report will highlight the issues - while IRT surveyors can literally

show clients problems on site, removing the need to lift flooring in various location and speeding up the repair in the process.

PREDICTIVE MAINTENANCE

IRT's technology can also be used to assess high voltage distribution boards, power supplies, transformers and machinery with minimal disruption, highlighting any overloaded components, out of phase power supplies or power connections. Not only can this thermal imaging help clients to plan a maintenance schedule, and minimise shut down time, it can also satisfy insurance policy requirements.

Each distribution board can be assessed with just one thermal image and physical contact with the components is not necessary. IRT can turnaround client reports with 3-5 working days.

FRANCHISE OPPORTUNITIES

IRT is expanding rapidly across the UK. If you are enthusiastic about the energy sector and determined and committed to building your own business, customer service focused and ambitious, then a franchise with IRT may be exactly what you are looking for.

For more information, please call 0845, 5193 474, email info@irtsurveys.co.uk or visit www.irtsurveys.co.uk



Stewart Little