

DRIVE SYSTEMS

Case study

Allied Glass Mould Cooling Fan Inverters

Energy costs are rising, and if you make glass, that is bad news. Allied Glass Containers in Leeds, for example, spends several million pounds a year on electricity and more on gas.

Faced with a 71% increase in energy costs which would severely affect profitability, Allied knew that by upgrading its cooling fan drives to variable speed drive (VSD) control, they could get substantial savings. "We generally run 24/7 and never turn the fans off," says Engineering Manager Chris Lumley. "If you only save £10 an hour per fan, it all adds up."

Siemens' holistic solution was not the cheapest, but offered the best value as all associated aspects of the commercial, technical and regulatory considerations were included. Comprehensive return on investment calculations were completed and armed with this data, the Siemens solution partner (Southern & Redfern) undertook a complete retrofit of all mechanical and electrical equipment. With some fifteen units now installed, the Siemens VSD technology has reduced electrical energy consumption on some of the fan units by up to 40% depending on fan load requirements.

This has saved several hundred thousands pounds, cut annual carbon emissions from the plant by almost 2,000 tonnes – and achieved the forecast 10 month payback.



"The Project was handled well by Siemens and their Solution Partner, the main attraction as well as achieving the predicted energy savings was the ability to supply a complete solution from the Power Quality Survey through installation to final commissioning".

Chris Lumley – Allied Glass Engineering Manager

