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ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

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ABSTRACT

Commercial buildings form the basis or infrastructure for a hub of commercial activity and are thus a driver of economic growth. Commercial buildings require extensive heating, cooling and lighting as well as power provision for IT related items; it is unsurprising, therefore, that commercial buildings are a significant consumer of the energy or power produced. With the advent of more progressive technology, it is now possible to not only reduce the energy demand of such buildings, but it is increasingly possible to produce buildings that are energy self-sufficient, or even power producing. A move towards more efficient buildings is not without its influencing factors and its barriers; this paper reviews the current literature on energy efficient buildings with regards to energy used in a building's life cycle, the retro-fitting of buildings, an occupant's perception of energy efficient buildings, and methods of energy saving in buildings.

KEYWORDS: Energy Efficiency &Commercial Buildings

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