

# Energy Management Systems (EMS)

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#### Abstract

Energy Management Systems (EMS) are essential frameworks designed to optimize energy usage, enhance operational efficiency, and reduce environmental impact across various sectors. By integrating advanced monitoring, analysis, and control technologies, EMS facilitate real-time tracking of energy consumption and support data-driven decision-making. The adoption of standards such as ISO 50001 provides organizations with structured methodologies to systematically improve energy performance while ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

Implementing an EMS yields significant benefits, including cost savings, reduced carbon footprints, and enhanced sustainability profiles. However, organizations may face challenges such as technical integration, data management, and cultural resistance to change. Successful case studies demonstrate the effectiveness of EMS in diverse industries, highlighting best practices and lessons learned.

Looking ahead, the convergence of Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence, and renewable energy integration promises to further revolutionize energy management practices. As organizations increasingly prioritize sustainability, EMS will play a crucial role in shaping a more energy-efficient future.

#### I. Introduction

Energy Management Systems (EMS) are comprehensive frameworks that enable organizations to systematically monitor, control, and optimize their energy consumption. In an era of escalating energy costs and increasing environmental concerns, the importance of effective energy management cannot be overstated. EMS not only help organizations reduce their energy expenditures but also play a crucial role in minimizing their carbon footprints and enhancing sustainability efforts.

The implementation of EMS is particularly relevant across various sectors, including manufacturing, commercial buildings, and utilities. By leveraging advanced technologies and methodologies, EMS facilitate real-time data collection and analysis, enabling organizations to make informed decisions regarding energy use. This proactive approach not only drives operational efficiencies but also aligns with regulatory compliance and corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

As global energy demands continue to rise, the adoption of EMS is becoming increasingly critical for organizations aiming to achieve energy efficiency, cost savings, and environmental sustainability. This introduction sets the stage for a deeper exploration of the components, benefits, challenges, and future trends associated with Energy Management Systems.

# **Definition of Energy Management Systems (EMS)**

Energy Management Systems (EMS) are structured frameworks and tools designed to monitor, control, and optimize energy consumption within an organization. An EMS encompasses a combination of hardware, software, and processes that facilitate the collection and analysis of energy data, enabling organizations to identify inefficiencies, set energy performance targets, and implement strategies for improvement.

At its core, an EMS aims to:

Monitor Energy Use: Continuous tracking of energy consumption patterns through sensors and metering technologies.

Analyze Data: Utilizing software to analyze energy data to identify trends, anomalies, and opportunities for savings.

Control Systems: Implementing automation and control processes to optimize energy usage in real-time based on demand and operational needs.

Continuous Improvement: Establishing a framework for ongoing assessment and enhancement of energy performance, often guided by standards such as ISO 50001.

Overall, EMS serve as a vital component for organizations seeking to achieve greater energy efficiency, reduce costs, and contribute to sustainability goals.

## Importance of EMS in energy efficiency

Energy Management Systems (EMS) play a crucial role in enhancing energy efficiency for several reasons:

Data-Driven Insights: EMS provide real-time monitoring and analysis of energy consumption, allowing organizations to identify inefficiencies and areas for improvement. This data-driven approach empowers decision-makers to implement targeted strategies.

Cost Savings: By optimizing energy use, organizations can significantly reduce

their energy bills. EMS help identify wasteful practices and implement corrective measures, leading to substantial cost savings over time.

Sustainability Goals: With growing emphasis on sustainability, EMS support organizations in reducing their carbon footprint. By improving energy efficiency, organizations can contribute to environmental preservation and meet regulatory requirements related to emissions.

Operational Efficiency: EMS help streamline operations by integrating energy management into daily processes. This not only enhances productivity but also aligns energy usage with operational needs, reducing waste.

Regulatory Compliance: Many industries face strict regulations regarding energy use and emissions. An effective EMS helps organizations comply with these regulations, thereby avoiding penalties and enhancing their reputation. Employee Engagement: Implementing an EMS often involves training and engaging employees in energy-saving practices. This fosters a culture of sustainability and encourages collective responsibility for energy management. Long-Term Planning: EMS facilitate strategic planning for energy consumption, enabling organizations to set realistic energy performance targets and track progress over time. This foresight supports long-term sustainability initiatives. Technological Integration: EMS can be integrated with advanced technologies such as IoT and smart devices, enhancing monitoring capabilities and enabling more sophisticated energy management strategies.

In summary, the importance of EMS in promoting energy efficiency lies in their ability to provide actionable insights, drive cost savings, support sustainability objectives, and foster a culture of continuous improvement within organizations.

## II. Key Components of EMS

Energy Management Systems (EMS) consist of several key components that work together to monitor, analyze, and optimize energy consumption. These components include:

A. Energy Monitoring
Data Collection Methods
Utilization of smart meters, sensors, and other devices to gather real-time energy consumption data.
Integration of building management systems (BMS) for comprehensive monitoring.
Sensors and Metering Technologies
Installation of sub-meters for specific equipment or areas to identify energy usage patterns.

Use of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) to facilitate detailed energy tracking.

B. Energy Analysis

Data Analysis Techniques

Application of software tools to analyze energy data, identify trends, and detect anomalies.

Use of statistical methods and algorithms for predictive analysis.

Energy Audits and Assessments

Conducting regular energy audits to evaluate energy performance and identify opportunities for improvement.

Assessing compliance with energy standards and regulations.

C. Energy Control

Automation and Control Systems

Implementation of automated controls to optimize energy use based on real-time data and operational needs.

Use of programmable logic controllers (PLC) and building automation systems (BAS).

Demand Response Strategies

Developing strategies to adjust energy consumption during peak demand periods to avoid high costs and strain on the grid.

Engaging in demand response programs with utilities to receive incentives for reducing load.

D. Reporting and Communication

Dashboards and Visualization Tools

Creation of user-friendly dashboards to present energy data and performance metrics clearly.

Visualization tools to help stakeholders understand energy consumption patterns and trends.

Stakeholder Reporting

Regular reporting to stakeholders on energy performance, savings achieved, and progress towards goals.

Communication of energy initiatives and results to foster engagement and support. E. Continuous Improvement

Feedback Mechanisms

Establishing processes for collecting feedback on energy management practices and outcomes.

Implementing changes based on performance evaluations and stakeholder input. Training and Awareness Programs

Conducting training sessions to raise awareness about energy efficiency practices among employees.

Encouraging a culture of continuous improvement and responsibility for energy management.

By integrating these key components, an EMS enables organizations to effectively manage their energy resources, improve efficiency, and support sustainability initiatives.

# III. EMS Framework

The framework for Energy Management Systems (EMS) provides a structured approach to managing energy use, ensuring continual improvement, and complying with relevant standards. Key elements of this framework include:

A. ISO 50001 Standard

Overview of the Standard

ISO 50001 is an international standard that outlines best practices for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and improving an energy management system.

It provides a systematic approach to optimizing energy performance and promotes efficient energy use across organizations.

Benefits of Certification

Achieving ISO 50001 certification can enhance credibility and demonstrate a commitment to energy efficiency to stakeholders.

Organizations can benefit from improved energy performance, reduced costs, and enhanced compliance with energy-related regulations.

B. Systematic Approach

Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) Cycle

Plan: Establish energy objectives, targets, and processes to deliver results in accordance with the energy policy.

Do: Implement the processes as planned and provide resources for effective energy management.

Check: Monitor and measure processes against the energy policy and objectives, and report the results.

Act: Take actions to continually improve the energy management system's performance based on the results of monitoring and analysis.

Continuous Improvement Processes

Incorporating feedback loops to ensure ongoing refinement of energy management practices.

Setting new energy performance targets based on previous outcomes and emerging technologies.

C. Integration with Organizational Processes

Alignment with Business Goals

Ensuring that energy management initiatives are aligned with overall business strategies and objectives.

Integrating energy management into existing operational and strategic processes. Employee Engagement and Training

Fostering a culture of energy awareness and responsibility among employees through training and involvement in energy initiatives.

Encouraging contributions from all levels of the organization to enhance energy performance.

D. Performance Measurement and Reporting

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Establishing KPIs to measure energy performance, such as energy intensity, reduction in consumption, and cost savings.

Regularly reviewing KPIs to assess progress and identify areas for improvement. Documentation and Records

Maintaining records of energy consumption, audits, actions taken, and results achieved.

Documenting procedures and processes to ensure consistency and compliance with standards.

By following this EMS framework, organizations can effectively manage their energy resources, drive efficiency improvements, and achieve their sustainability objectives.

# IV. Benefits of Implementing EMS

Implementing an Energy Management System (EMS) offers a wide range of benefits for organizations across various sectors. Key advantages include:

A. Cost Savings

Reduction in Energy Bills

Optimizing energy consumption leads to significant reductions in utility costs. Identification of energy waste allows for targeted interventions that lower overall expenses.

Improved Operational Efficiency

Streamlined energy use enhances productivity and reduces operational costs.

Efficient equipment and processes minimize downtime and maintenance expenses.

B. Environmental Impact

Reduction in Carbon Footprint

By improving energy efficiency, organizations can significantly decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

Contributing to global efforts to combat climate change and protect natural resources.

Sustainability Goals

Aligning with corporate sustainability initiatives enhances the organization's reputation.

Meeting stakeholder expectations for environmental responsibility and sustainable practices.

C. Regulatory Compliance

Meeting Energy Regulations and Standards

An EMS helps organizations comply with local, national, and international energy regulations.

Reducing the risk of non-compliance penalties and enhancing corporate credibility. Preparation for Future Legislation

Proactively addressing energy management prepares organizations for stricter future regulations.

Ensuring long-term viability and adaptability in a changing regulatory landscape.

D. Enhanced Corporate Reputation

Stakeholder Trust

Demonstrating a commitment to energy management fosters trust among customers, investors, and the community.

Enhancing brand loyalty through transparent sustainability practices.

Attracting Investment

Organizations with strong EMS are often viewed as lower-risk investments due to efficient resource management.

Attracting funding and partnerships aligned with sustainability objectives.

E. Employee Engagement and Productivity

Increased Awareness and Involvement

Training employees on energy efficiency fosters a culture of responsibility and engagement.

Empowering staff to contribute ideas for energy savings enhances morale and teamwork.

Health and Comfort Improvements

Energy-efficient practices often lead to better indoor environments, improving employee comfort and productivity.

Reducing energy waste can enhance air quality and overall workplace conditions.

F. Long-Term Strategic Planning

Sustainable Growth

An effective EMS supports long-term business strategies focused on sustainability and efficiency.

Enabling organizations to adapt to changing market dynamics and energy landscapes.

Future-Proofing Operations

Implementing EMS prepares organizations for future energy challenges and opportunities.

Encouraging innovation in energy technologies and practices.

In summary, the benefits of implementing an EMS are multifaceted, encompassing financial savings, environmental responsibility, regulatory compliance, enhanced reputation, employee engagement, and strategic resilience. These advantages position organizations for sustainable growth and success in an increasingly energy-conscious world.

V. Challenges in EMS Implementation

Implementing an Energy Management System (EMS) can present various challenges that organizations must navigate to achieve successful outcomes. Key challenges include:

A. Technical Challenges

Integration with Existing Systems

Difficulty in integrating EMS with legacy systems and existing technologies can hinder effective implementation.

Ensuring compatibility among different software and hardware components requires careful planning and investment.

Data Management Issues

Collecting, analyzing, and managing large volumes of energy data can be overwhelming.

Ensuring data accuracy, consistency, and security is essential for reliable decisionmaking.

B. Organizational Challenges

Employee Engagement and Training

Resistance to change among employees can impede the adoption of new energy management practices.

Providing adequate training and resources is essential to foster a culture of energy awareness and accountability.

Cultural Resistance to Change

Existing organizational cultures may prioritize short-term goals over long-term sustainability efforts.

Overcoming inertia and shifting mindsets towards energy efficiency can be a significant hurdle.

C. Financial Constraints

Initial Investment Costs

Implementing an EMS may require substantial upfront investments in technology, training, and infrastructure.

Organizations may struggle to allocate budgets for energy management initiatives amidst competing priorities.

Uncertain Return on Investment (ROI)

Difficulty in quantifying the financial benefits of energy management can lead to skepticism about the value of an EMS.

Establishing clear metrics for measuring ROI is crucial for justifying investments.

D. Regulatory and Compliance Issues

**Evolving Regulations** 

Keeping up with changing energy regulations and standards can be challenging for organizations.

Adapting to new compliance requirements may require additional resources and adjustments to existing systems.

Documentation and Reporting Burden

Ensuring proper documentation for compliance can create additional administrative burdens.

Organizations may need to invest in resources to maintain accurate records and reporting processes.

E. Technological Advancements

Rapidly Changing Technology Landscape

The fast pace of technological advancements can make it difficult for organizations to keep their EMS updated.

Staying informed about emerging technologies and trends is essential for maintaining competitiveness.

Reliability of New Technologies

Implementing new technologies may involve risks related to reliability and performance.

Organizations must carefully evaluate and test new solutions before full-scale adoption.

F. Measurement and Evaluation

Establishing Effective KPIs

Defining appropriate key performance indicators (KPIs) that accurately reflect energy performance can be complex.

Organizations may struggle to select and track relevant metrics over time.

Continuous Improvement Challenges

Maintaining momentum for continuous improvement in energy management practices can be difficult.

Organizations must remain committed to regular assessments and updates to their EMS.

In conclusion, while the implementation of an EMS offers significant benefits, organizations must be prepared to address various challenges related to technology, culture, finance, compliance, and measurement. Overcoming these hurdles is essential for maximizing the effectiveness and sustainability of energy management initiatives.

VI. Case Studies

Analyzing real-world examples of Energy Management Systems (EMS) implementation can provide valuable insights into best practices, challenges, and outcomes. Here are a few notable case studies:

A. Manufacturing Sector: General Motors (GM)

Overview

General Motors implemented an EMS across its manufacturing facilities to enhance energy efficiency and reduce costs.

Initiatives

Installation of advanced metering systems for real-time energy monitoring.

Conducting energy audits to identify inefficiencies in production processes. Outcomes

Achieved a 30% reduction in energy consumption per vehicle produced over several years.

Significant cost savings, amounting to millions of dollars annually, due to optimized energy use.

B. Commercial Sector: Walmart

Overview

Walmart has adopted an extensive EMS as part of its commitment to sustainability and energy efficiency across its stores and distribution centers.

Initiatives

Implementation of energy-efficient lighting, HVAC systems, and refrigeration technology.

Utilization of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind, to power stores. Outcomes

Walmart reported a 20% reduction in energy consumption in its U.S. operations since 2005.

Enhanced corporate reputation as a leader in sustainability, attracting ecoconscious customers.

C. Utilities Sector: Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)

Overview

PG&E developed an EMS to improve energy management practices and enhance demand response programs.

Initiatives

Deployment of smart meters and demand response technologies to monitor and control energy use in real-time.

Engaging customers through awareness programs and incentives for reducing peak demand.

Outcomes

Successfully reduced peak demand by 1,000 megawatts during critical periods. Improved customer satisfaction and engagement through transparent energy usage data and incentives.

D. Higher Education: University of California, Berkeley

Overview

UC Berkeley implemented an EMS to manage energy consumption across campus facilities and promote sustainability.

Initiatives

Development of a centralized energy monitoring platform to track usage and identify inefficiencies.

Integration of renewable energy sources and energy storage systems.

Outcomes

Achieved a 25% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions since 2010.

Enhanced student and faculty engagement in sustainability initiatives through educational programs.

E. Hospitality Sector: Marriott International

Overview

Marriott International implemented an EMS to improve energy efficiency in its hotels worldwide.

Initiatives

Upgraded lighting and HVAC systems, and introduced smart technology to optimize energy use.

Conducted staff training programs to promote energy-saving practices among employees.

Outcomes

Achieved a 20% reduction in energy consumption per room over a five-year period.

Enhanced brand image as a sustainable hospitality leader, attracting environmentally-conscious travelers.

Conclusion

These case studies illustrate the diverse applications and significant benefits of

EMS across different sectors. They highlight the importance of tailored initiatives, stakeholder engagement, and continuous improvement in achieving successful energy management outcomes. By learning from these examples, organizations can better navigate their own EMS implementation journeys.

VII. Future Trends in EMS

As energy management continues to evolve, several key trends are emerging that will shape the future of Energy Management Systems (EMS). These trends reflect advancements in technology, changing regulatory landscapes, and increasing demands for sustainability. Here are some notable future trends:

A. Integration of IoT and Smart Technologies

Connected Devices

The proliferation of Internet of Things (IoT) devices will enable real-time monitoring and control of energy systems.

Smart meters and sensors will provide granular data on energy consumption, allowing for more precise analysis and decision-making.

Enhanced Automation

Advanced automation technologies will optimize energy use across facilities,

adjusting systems dynamically based on occupancy and demand.

Machine learning algorithms will analyze data patterns to predict energy needs and enhance efficiency.

B. Focus on Renewable Energy Integration

Hybrid Energy Systems

EMS will increasingly incorporate renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind, into energy management strategies.

Organizations will leverage battery storage solutions to manage energy supply and demand effectively.

Grid Interaction

Active participation in demand response programs will enable organizations to help stabilize the grid while reducing costs.

EMS will facilitate real-time interactions with utility companies to optimize energy procurement.

C. Artificial Intelligence and Advanced Analytics

**Predictive Analytics** 

The use of AI and machine learning will enhance predictive analytics capabilities, enabling organizations to forecast energy consumption and identify potential issues before they arise.

Data-driven insights will support proactive decision-making and continuous

improvement.

Behavioral Analysis

AI will analyze employee behavior and operational practices to suggest

personalized energy-saving measures.

Tailored recommendations can enhance employee engagement and participation in energy-saving initiatives.

D. Regulatory and Compliance Evolution

Stricter Energy Regulations

As governments implement more stringent energy efficiency and emissions regulations, organizations will need to adapt their EMS accordingly.

Compliance with evolving standards will drive the adoption of advanced energy management practices.

Increased Reporting Requirements

Organizations may face enhanced reporting obligations regarding energy use and sustainability efforts, necessitating more robust data management capabilities.

EMS will need to integrate comprehensive reporting features to facilitate compliance.

E. Enhanced Stakeholder Engagement

Transparency and Accountability

Organizations will prioritize transparency in energy management practices, sharing data and outcomes with stakeholders.

Engaging employees, customers, and investors in sustainability initiatives will foster a culture of accountability and collective responsibility.

Community Collaboration

EMS will increasingly focus on collaboration with local communities to promote energy efficiency and sustainability.

Partnerships with local governments and organizations will enhance community resilience and resource management.

F. Emphasis on Circular Economy Principles

**Resource** Optimization

EMS will support the transition to a circular economy by optimizing resource use and minimizing waste.

Organizations will implement strategies to reuse and recycle resources,

contributing to sustainability goals.

Lifecycle Management

A focus on the entire lifecycle of energy systems and equipment will promote more sustainable practices and reduce environmental impact.

EMS will track the performance and energy consumption of assets throughout their lifecycle.

Conclusion

The future of Energy Management Systems will be characterized by technological advancements, a stronger emphasis on sustainability, and evolving regulatory landscapes. By embracing these trends, organizations can enhance their energy management practices, drive efficiency, and contribute to a more sustainable future.

## VIII. Conclusion

Energy Management Systems (EMS) are vital tools for organizations seeking to optimize energy consumption, reduce costs, and enhance sustainability. As demonstrated throughout this discussion, EMS encompass a range of components and frameworks designed to facilitate effective energy monitoring, analysis, control, and continuous improvement.

The implementation of EMS offers numerous benefits, including significant cost savings, reduced environmental impact, regulatory compliance, and improved corporate reputation. However, organizations must also navigate challenges such as technical integration, employee engagement, and financial constraints to achieve successful outcomes.

Looking ahead, the future of EMS is poised to be shaped by advancements in technology, including the integration of IoT, artificial intelligence, and renewable energy sources. These trends will enable organizations to enhance their energy management practices, foster greater stakeholder engagement, and align with evolving regulatory requirements.

In conclusion, as energy demands continue to rise and environmental concerns become more pressing, the role of EMS will be increasingly critical. Organizations that proactively adopt and adapt their energy management strategies will not only enhance their operational efficiency but also contribute meaningfully to global sustainability efforts. Embracing the potential of EMS today is essential for building a more energy-efficient and sustainable future.

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