

Tecom Investments draws support from business partners for energy conservation

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Tecom Investments, a member of Dubai Holding and the first company in the UAE to adopt a sustainable procurement policy, today announced 10 business partners have joined its energy conservation programme, committing to significantly reducing carbon emissions.

Microsoft Gulf, HP Middle East, University of Wollongong Dubai (UOWD), Canon and Cupola are among some of the business partners joining forces with Tecom's ambitious initiative to reduce its carbon footprint.

Initiated in April 2007, the energy conservation programme at business partner offices is expected to reduce about 1,338 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

Since January to September 2008, Tecom's comprehensive Energy and Water conservation programme has helped save nearly 12,230 MWh of energy and reduced its water consumption by 20,313 million gallons. It has also contributed to reducing Tecom's CO2 emissions by 10,924 tonnes. The phenomenal accomplishment complements Tecom's earlier reduction of 9,457 tonnes of CO2 emissions between April 2007 and March 2008.

Dr. Amina Alrustamani, Chief Executive Officer, Tecom Business Parks, said: 'We are proud of our achievement in the energy conservation programme. Exceeding initial expectations is testimony to the commitment of Tecom to this cause. Now, with many of our Business Partners also coming on board, we are certain to achieve enhanced results as we come together for the benefit of the future of our planet.'

The phenomenal reduction in carbon emissions was accomplished through optimizing the operations of all electro-mechanical equipment at Tecom-managed facilities as well as in common areas.

Ali bin Towaih, Director of Sustainable Energy and Environment Division (SEED), Tecom Investments, said:

'As the first organization in the Middle East to launch a sustainable development initiative, we are committed to carrying our endeavour forward for the benefit of the community. Our societies are an amalgamation of all our diverse needs and desires. Creating sustainable communities demands that we understand how these needs and desires are integrated with the environment.'

'Sustainability is related to the quality of life that is facilitated by different levels of interaction among economic, social and environmental systems. These together assure a healthy, productive, and meaningful life for all in the community,' he added.

The Energy Conservation Programme advocates specific mandates during the weekends and after-working hours. Offices are required to turn up the air conditioning thermostats, switch off 50% of the lights at common areas and corridors, keep open all window blinds during the day time to utilize natural lighting, and turn off low voltage halogen bulbs in most of the areas.

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