



**Kevan N. Dean**

*BHA Energy Task Force Chair*

Kevan Dean is Director of Emergency Preparedness at Kerzner International where he is responsible for fire and life safety as well as various energy and environmental initiatives. Since 2007 Kevan has Chaired BHA's energy-related initiatives, advising the organization and assisting with several BHA projects. He represents BHA on the National Energy Policy Task Force.

## MESSAGE FROM KEVAN...

Energy is a vital necessity of everything we do and each day we find ourselves at an interesting crossroad trying to balance the need for energy with costs and its impact to the bottom line. None of us is immune from the growing impact of energy costs.

BHA is becoming increasingly involved in energy-related matters, including:

- ◆ Successfully advancing duty reductions on solar, lighting and several other items in recent years.
- ◆ Collaborating with the Government of The Bahamas and the Inter-American Development Bank on pilot projects conduct over 20 detailed energy efficiency audits in member hotels at no cost to the hotel.
- ◆ Sharing practical information with businesses on things they can do to reduce their energy costs.
- ◆ Advancing a number of recommendations towards a National Energy Policy, which are under serious consideration by the Government.



What we have painfully learned however, is that far more savings can be realized by hotels, businesses and residents to reduce their energy costs and become more efficient.

This is why we are introducing to you *'Energy and Your Businesses'*, a bi-weekly bulletin for BHA members to share relevant information on a variety of topics including national report results, energy conservation myths and realities, renewable energy, energy policy reform, helpful tips, fun facts and more.

One of the key and primary focuses will be the focus on energy conservation which simply means using less energy – "conserve" means to "avoid using." When we turn off a light, we're conserving energy. This also means we are not wasting money.

As you review these bulletins in the coming months, it is our intent to foster a mindset that is in support of this very statement and that is *"The outgrowth of conservation, the inevitable result, is national efficiency."* [Gifford Pinchot](#)

## Our Challenge....

Rising energy costs, global warming and the depletion of petroleum reserves are motivating forward-thinking businesses to review their energy use. Energy demand is closely linked to the comfort of our guests. Our challenge is to create a balance between consumption and comfort.

Typically, energy costs for a 300-room hotel in The Bahamas are 35% greater than their Caribbean counterpart and 114% higher than a similar hotel in the United States. This has a huge impact on profitability. This is the second highest cost after wages.

To reduce the impact on the environment, it is necessary to control the consumption of fossil fuels and to turn to clean technologies and renewable energy.

### Do You....

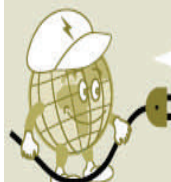
- Know the total amount spent by your hotel or business on energy consumption?
- Know how much energy you use on a monthly basis?
- Know how much each department or area consumes?
- Rely on different energy sources, among them being those labeled as 'clean'?
- Use processes that optimize energy consumption?

**Did You Know:** The First power plant owned by Thomas Edison opened in New York City in 1882?

## Actions You Can Take Now:

Monitor Regularly Energy Consumption

- Check the electricity meters at least once a month
- Install meters in key departments or high usage areas to monitor consumption
- Monitor hot water consumption as much as possible
- Calculate the energy consumption costs for the hotel and departments
- Determine what areas consume the most energy
- Measure usage and look for variances, then find out why and take corrective measures if necessary



Hot water production can represent 25% of the hotel's energy consumption. Solar energy allows a reduction of at least 40% of that consumption.

**We would love to hear from you:**

Email your comments, suggestions or success stories to [bhahotels.org](mailto:bhahotels.org)