

## It's Not Easy Being Green and Staying Green



By Edward H. Brzezowski, P.E., LEED AP

Let's face it- in this day and age the family car is easier to monitor than a multi-million dollar office building. By simply looking at the dashboard you can tell the temperature inside and outside, how fast you're driving, how the engine is performing and if the battery is performing efficiently.

Unlike a car, there is no instantaneous way to tell how efficiently a building is working.

Energy efficiency has been at the top of the agenda in Washington, DC, Albany, and many local New York municipalities and green buildings are a major component of these agendas. The federal stimulus package includes billions of dollars for smart grid technology and market transformation from fossil fuel to renewable energy. This is expected to energize industries and create new green collar jobs that will boost the economy.

Working on projects throughout New York, Noveda Technologies has developed a technology that takes inventory of and analyzes a building's energy use and efficiency level, helping building owners and landlords save money and the environment at the same time. For one client's headquarters, we put in place technological and efficiency changes that reduced their carbon footprint by more than 80% and significantly reduced operating costs.

### Talk about going green!

Everyone is talking about reducing their carbon footprint, but do they really know what it takes or how to know if their energy conservation or renewable energy project is still working after it's been installed?

This new green industry spawned by technological advances will create green collar jobs for the region, and require trained and skilled labor, from mechanical professionals to conduct installations, engineers to evaluate the information and architects to design the necessary improvements.

The results will be increased employment and energy efficiency—all positives for New York.

This green development makes the invisible, visible. It employs our workers, protects our energy supply, and simplifies the possibility of a lower carbon footprint and greener lifestyle for New York State.

*Edward H. Brzezowski is the founder and president of Noveda Technologies, a member of the New York Affordable Reliable Electricity Alliance.*

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