

# "Current" Events

## Lewis Electric Update



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### Bet you didn't Know ?

### *Where the energy goes !!!*

A typical South Florida home uses about \$200.00 worth of electricity a month, this chart will give you some idea on where it goes.

<u>Appliance</u>	<u>Average Wattage</u>	<u>Average kwh</u>	<u>Estimated Month kwh</u>
Air Cond.	3000	3.0ph	857
Ceiling Fan	Varies	5-15	60
Clock	4	3	10
Dryer	4350	5ph	150
Coffee Pot	850	8	2
Computer	360	22	20
Dishwasher	1190	30-48	30
Air Filter	50	36	2
Freezer	440	150-240	175
Blender	110	1	1
Heater	600	75	1
Disposal	400	2	2
Hair Dryer	1250	3	4
Iron	1100	12	8
Lighting	2500	75-150	100
Microwave	1450	16	16
Stereo	110	13	10
Range	12000	100-150	125
Refrig.	475	150-230	275
T.V.-Color	250	30-40	50
Toaster	1100	4	4
VCR	25	3	3
Vacuum	700	3	3
Washer	600	8	8
Water Heat	4500	400	400
Pump	750	40	75

**Calculated Total kWh: 2391**

**Cost per kWh: .08 cents X 2391 = \$191.28**

(ph - per hour)

After viewing this chart you now have a better idea of your electrical appliances and how much power they devour monthly and with any luck you may be able to shave off a little bit of FPL's take this summer. GOOD LUCK !!!.

### *Interior Lighting*

### *Facts !*

**How can computer screen glare be reduced:**

Walk into any company today, large or small, and you are likely to find that nearly everyone has a PC at their desk. Although computer use has increased productivity overall, employees complain of eye strain and fatigue from looking at the visual display terminal (VDT) in the office environment. Why ? Glare from poorly shielded lighting creates discomfort, and too much brightness reflects on the computer monitor reducing visibility.

Poor lighting causes distracting eye strain which leads to mistakes and loss of productivity. This has been quantified in errors centered at the human/VDT interface, where information flows in and out of exacting business operations, like order entry and billing. Just the out-of-pocket cost of "VDT error" can range from \$5 to \$10 per sq. ft. annually. In the areas of finance, engineering and communications. The impact on "knowledge workers" can be even more injurious.

### **Inside**

- 1 Where the energy goes !?!**
- 2 Interior Lighting Facts!**

***Farewell Dewmeister !!!***

***Don't Forget Mothers Day, May 10th.***

***Happy Birthday Britt, April 18th and Bert May 24th***

# "Current" Events

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- ☑ Fire Alarm Systems
- ☑ Closed Circuit TV
- ☑ Telephone Systems
- ☑ Home Automation
- ☑ Surge Suppression
- ☑ Design and Build
- ☑ UPS Systems
- ☑ Commercial Electric
- ☑ Packing Houses
- ☑ Nurseries and Farms
- ☑ Electric Motors
- ☑ Automatic Gate Openers

With the ever increasing use of computers in the work place, electrical contractors face two challenges lighting the large and open modern office space: how to conserve electrical energy, while creating an effective luminous environment for employees working long hours at the computer. Typically, these two issues have been addressed separately, often with contradictory results.

Energy conservation is an important issue because lighting consumes approximately one-third or more of all the electricity used in commercial buildings. Approximately 35% of energy used in such buildings is for lighting, while another 6% is attributable to air conditioning energy required to remove excess heat generated by lighting. Office equipment dependent on electricity (computers and printers) is also rapidly growing electrical end-use.

The broad use of computers in office areas prompted the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES) to issue a set of recommendations in 1989 for lighting in ADT-intensive work areas. These recommendations have been accepted as the quality standard for today's office space

In order to achieve a comfortable balance of luminance and reduced eye strain for the computer user the following items should be incorporated into your lighting plan.

**Screen images-** limit brightness (luminance) to prevent distracting reflection on VDTs.

**General Lighting-** 30 to 50 foot candles provide adequate general lighting for most office environments.

**Lighted Walls-** make spaces appear brighter, more spacious and pleasant.

**Ceiling Hot Spots-** limit ceiling brightness and maintain consistency.

**Direct Glare-** provide adequate shielding on luminaries for visual comfort in heads-up viewing.

**Task Lighting-** for older eyes and demanding up-close tasks, avoid direct glare and veiling reflections.

**Balanced Brightness-** do not exceed a 3:1 ratio between the luminance of the ADT and surrounding surfaces.

**Visual Interest-** highlights create a stimulating and attractive environment, so avoid flat lighting.

**Control-** preset lights to turn off when not in use, and to dim when daylight is available.

IES recommends keeping general lighting levels low and applying supplemental task lighting where required.

Consider how much energy can be saved if you regulate your lighting through an "energy smart" approach. To do so involves using advanced controls that can be preprogrammed, to automatically turn off lights at prearranged times, dim lights based on daylight, occupancy sensors to dim or shut off lights in office areas when not in use.

## On the sadder side of things:

The Lewis Electric Family is mourning the passing of Mr. Dewey Abel on April 10th. The "Dewmeister", as we all affectionately called him, is Ed's father-in-law and dear friend and fellow employee to the rest of us. He took our deposits to the bank and brought back lollipops for the girls; never forgot to change the A/C filter on the first of the month; or the water filter and air cleaner filters every 6 months. He did endless errands--picking up material and supplies as far as North Miami; going downtown to pull complicated permits; and on and on. Wherever you saw Dewey, he always had his Lewis Electric Hat on and was wearing his beeper, and that's a sight that we're all going to miss more than words can express.

We will all miss you **Dewey** !!!

E.T., Karin, John, Steve K., Britt, Bert, Steve Mc., Rick, Alex