

Energy saving is becoming an issue within Dutch care homes

In the Netherlands the interest for the SAVE AGE project is high. It is clear that energy savings is becoming more and more an issue for residential care homes. This is not surprising, as energy saving offers multiple benefits: it helps to reduce climate change, saves money and can help to improve indoor climate and reduce the sick leave among staff. Also more and more care homes are urged to consider energy saving measures under direction of local authorities.



A recent survey on the energy saving potential in the Dutch health care sector identified a realistic saving potential of about 25% within nursing and care homes for elderly (TNO, 2010). This implies also a saving potential of 25% on the energy bill. Most profit can be gained from roof and façade insulation, efficient lighting and optimisation of the heating system. Heat and cold storage in the underground is an attractive option for new care homes.

SAVE AGE will help the management of care homes to get a view on saving potentials in their situation and to compare their own energy consumption to that of fellow institutes.

The interest for this approach is shown by the number of homes in the Netherlands that wanted to participate in the SAVE AGE project. In fact these requests exceeded the maximum amount that was set by the project budget. W/E Consultants, the partner responsible for the Dutch activities, will keep all homes that had to be disappointed informed about the progress and lessons from the project.

