

Case Study

Meridian Energy – ICT Sustainability Quick Start & Footprinting

»The whole Quick Start process gave us real insight into how we could reach beyond our current ICT targets of sustainability. The benchmark report gave us something further to strive for, with clarity on how to get there.«

Alison Howard, Sustainability Performance Advisor, Meridian



The customer

Country: New Zealand
 Industry: Energy Generation
 Founded: 1991
 Employees: ~600
 Website: www.meridianenergy.co.nz



meridian

The challenge

Meridian Energy had already implemented a lot of sustainable ICT programs. What could the company do next to achieve global best practice and keep its leadership position as one of New Zealand's most sustainable companies?

The solution

The Fujitsu Consulting Sustainability team conducted an ICT Sustainability Quick Start Assessment. This is a rapid tool that includes interviews with key stakeholders, provided a global benchmarking analysis, current IT sustainability state and a detailed strategy on how to achieve best practice in sustainable IT.

The customer

Meridian Energy is an integrated renewable energy company. It is the largest generator in New Zealand, with a strong pipeline of development options in Australasia, and also retails electricity throughout New Zealand. Meridian generates around 30% of the country's electricity and owns and operates seven hydroelectric power stations, one wind farm in the South Island of New Zealand and three wind farms in the North Island. Meridian is committed to renewable energy, environmental stewardship and supporting the communities living alongside its assets, making it an authentically sustainable organisation. Meridian supports its customers with positive energy solutions, helping them to reduce their energy use.

The challenge

Being a truly sustainable company that prides itself in developing only renewable energy, the culture and ethos of Meridian is to continuously improve operational efficiency and engage at a genuine level with customers and stakeholders. Meridian has already achieved significant energy efficiency savings across its business, including in ICT. The company has programs in place to move staff from desktops to energy efficient laptops. There are also initiatives focused on recycling, and staff education programs around energy conservation and switching off PCs at night. The challenge for Fujitsu was to identify how Meridian could improve its performance, helping it to achieve sustainable ICT best practice. With a mission of being a sustainable company Meridian also needed to be able to identify new sustainability initiatives moving forward.

The solution

Fujitsu Consulting's Sustainability team was engaged to conduct an ICT Sustainability Quick Start diagnostic, which provided a rapid assessment of the level of Green ICT maturity at Meridian. Using a proven methodology the team was able to benchmark strategic areas of Meridian's ICT operations. Having the knowledge and database from the previous two years of global benchmarking reports, Fujitsu's consultants were able to benchmark Meridian against over 1000 other companies across seven countries and specifically against other utilities across ANZ, providing a detailed roadmap towards achieving best practice.

The benefit

- Full understanding of whole of ICT sustainability
- Benchmarking of Green ICT maturity against peers
- Detailed strategic roadmap and plan on how to achieve global best practice
- User engagement led to the “buy in” of ICT sustainability
- Established ongoing business support and long term goodwill with the client

The team conducted 8 face-to-face interviews asking a total of 80 detailed questions about the state of ICT Sustainability at Meridian. Along with the CIO, ICT Manager and the Sustainability Performance Advisor, the team also interviewed the Data Centre provider and internal Fujitsu staff responsible for the service delivery of the account.

A review of the asset register and inspection of the Wellington Data Centre was also conducted to help gain a true understanding of the whole ICT footprint.

The benefits

Overall Meridian compares extremely well, outperforming all of its peer groups with a total average score of 60.5% and comes in at 166th place on a global scale of 1,000 companies previously surveyed. Key strengths lie in Lifecycle, Enterprise and Enablement with key areas for improvement identified in the End User and Metrics. With global best practice being 80% and the opportunities clearly identified, Meridian has a unique opportunity to be the first New Zealand company and utility globally to achieve global best practice.

Products and services

- ICT Sustainability Quick Start Assessment
- Benchmarking analysis to ANZ and global utilities
- Stakeholder and communication management & plan
- ICT footprinting analysis
- ICT sustainability solution map (positive results chain)
- Documented understanding of current state of ICT sustainability
- Future strategic roadmap to achieve global best practice

Conclusion

The Quick Start process provided Meridian with a high level of engagement and identified future opportunities to move to stage 2 & 3 of the Fujitsu ICT Sustainability Framework, which looks at Strategic Alignment and a full ICT Assessment. With the baseline now well defined, Meridian has the opportunity and roadmap to achieve global best practice that is supported by a strategic plan for continuous improvement.

Fujitsu is now working on a medium term plan to help Meridian achieve global best practice. This plan includes a detailed program that provides further business case analysis, energy and cost savings models together with an internal communication plan.

In collaboration with



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About Fujitsu

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