

International Summit on Industrial Engineering

December 08-10, 2014 DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel San Francisco Airport, USA

Adopting (outsourcing and establishing) energy management activities in a manufacturing context

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Environmental concerns, stricter legislation and inflated energy costs, together yield energy efficiency as an important pillar for almost every industrial sector. Mindful of this challenge, energy management is deemed to be one of the major instruments to sustain energy efficiency within manufacturing companies; nevertheless little attention had been paid to which factors drive a company in the adoption of energy management activities. Based on literature review, this paper aims to: 1) identify, classify and characterize all energy management activities, with respect to energy efficiency, that could take place in a manufacturing company; 2) identify all the factors that could drive the choice of company managers in the adoption of energy management programs and their implementation by an energy management team from the company or by technology and energy service providers; and 3) qualify and/or quantify the link between those factors and the kind of adoption - outsourcing decision included - chosen together with other contextual features.

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