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KPMG among the top Green-IT Organizations

KPMG in the US has been selected to the top Green-IT Organizations by leading IT business magazine, Computerworld. With its second annual award, the magazine honoured best performers that are reducing power demands and using technology to create energy efficiencies. KPMG in Hungary has also implemented several similar “green computing” initiatives.

At a time when the green-IT movement has grown with a bounty of new ideas and success stories, Computerworld’s online listing showcases the “green computing” achievements that help save money, shrink IT operations and, ultimately guard the planet.

All of KPMG’s efforts are part of the firm’s global Living Green program, which aims to measure, report on and reduce the firm’s global carbon footprint by 25% by 2010, starting from a 2007 baseline.

KPMG’ finest new achievement is a data center that runs natural-gas-powered microturbines that generate electricity, and thus co-generates up to 75% of its own energy. The facility uses multiple sources for electrical power, but 14 natural gas-powered microturbines generate the majority of the electricity needed – this electricity is also significantly "cleaner" than traditional electricity. And by recovering heat generated by the turbines, absorption chillers cool up to 420 tons of water, used for cooling in the data center. In fact, 80% of the energy from the natural gas gets used through this design, which is three times more efficient than electricity grids. "As soon as it was fired up, the carbon footprint due to energy consumption dropped 13%," Dick Anderson, CIO at KPMG LLP says.

KPMG has also moved away from personal printers, reducing its printer count by 25%. By changing automatic printer settings to draft and duplex mode, it saves \$100,000 per month. IT also increased the firm's percentage of virtualized servers from 15% to 40% in 2008. Through technology upgrades, KPMG decreased the average energy consumption of its PCs by 11% last year. The company not only works with vendors to recycle technology equipment, to the tune of 45 tons in 2008, but it also ensures that its employees working on these efforts are certified through an in-house online training seminar to understand how to handle each type of device. KPMG also asks vendors to send verification as to where waste goes after leaving the door.

KPMG in Hungary has also implemented several similar “green computing” initiatives, says the firm’s CIO, Billy Curley.

„Almost half of our running servers are operating in virtualized environment and we aim to increase that percentage to 60-65% by the end of year. Our default printer settings have been in draft and duplex mode for years. We have also reduced the number of printers and moved away from printing documents whenever it is not vital. We also print on recycled paper in our firm” Curley added.

As a new development, in order to save energy, a preconfigured system procedure turns all PCs and laptops off remotely at midnight, to avoid having devices left in switched on mode.

The firm is also using its videoconferencing facility full time, negating the need to fly abroad for meetings, not only saving energy and money, but also precious time of its professionals. Regarding recycling technology equipment, KPMG in Hungary has been donating to charitable organisations, selling on or trading in what the firm is finished with for years.

Notes to editors:

- **Computerworld's article on KPMG:**

<http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=336306>

- **Top Green-IT Honorees**

Top Green-IT Users

1. [Mohawk Fine Papers](#)
2. [State Street](#)
3. [Allstate Insurance](#)
4. [Citigroup](#)
5. [PricewaterhouseCoopers](#)
6. [State of Indiana](#)
7. [KPMG](#)
8. [Seventh Generation](#)
9. [Office Depot](#)
10. [Burt's Bees](#)
11. [Marriott International](#)
12. [Austin Energy](#)

Top Green-IT Vendors

1. IBM
2. Hewlett-Packard Co.
3. Fujitsu America Inc.
4. Microsoft Corp.
5. Qualcomm Inc.
6. Dell Inc.
7. Aplicor Inc.
8. BT Group PLC
9. Applied Materials Inc.
10. Entrust Inc.
11. Compellent Technologies Inc.
12. Terremark Worldwide Inc.

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