



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OEE PROVIDES THE PLATFORM FOR THOUSANDS OF POUNDS IN ANNUAL ENERGY SAVINGS AT HOVIS**

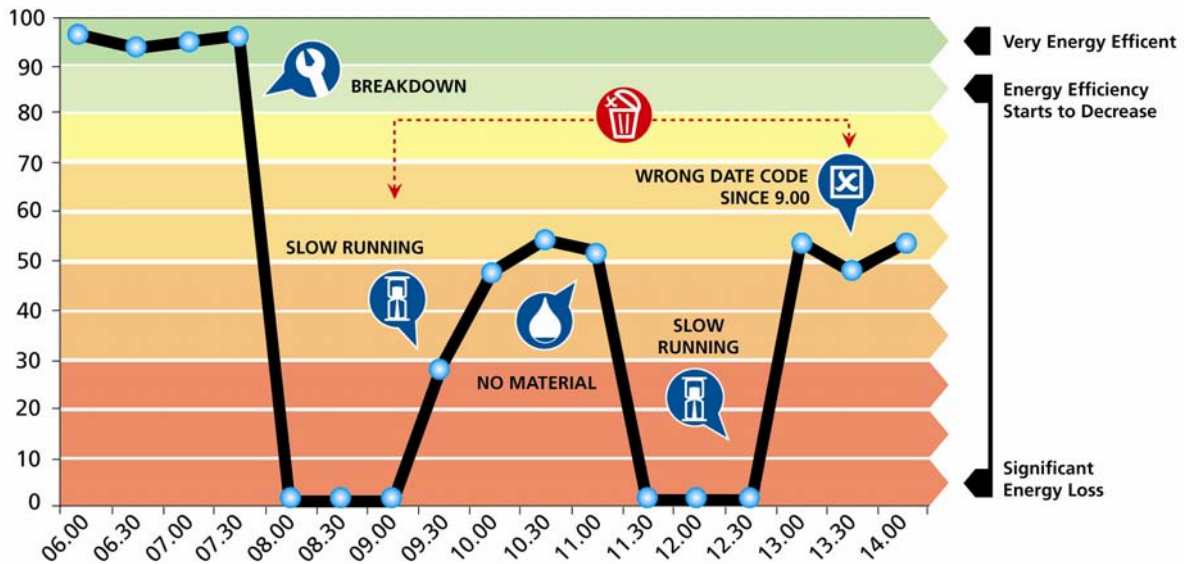
OEE Management Systems enable companies to discover ways to enhance their energy efficiency way beyond conventional energy saving programmes with dramatic results on their carbon footprint

Most manufacturers have already implemented a wide-range of energy related programmes including: switch-off campaigns; intelligent production scheduling at a lower time-tariff; installing new energy-efficient equipment or enhancing maintenance to reduce leaks. All of these programmes are necessary for an ongoing improvement in energy consumption, but they are not sufficient on their own. There is an even bigger prize to be gained in operating the factory as effectively as possible to maximize energy-efficiency. Hovis, the bread producing division of Premier Foods (the UK's largest food producer), has found that by harnessing the power of an OEE Management System to gain greater production efficiency they have been able to reduce their annual gas budget by 7%, worth a saving of £400,000 pounds a year.

***“In addition to savings in labour unit cost and product wastage, we have achieved significant savings in energy usage. Optimised OEE has a hugely beneficial impact on our energy-efficiency programme which supports our environmental objectives.”***

said Bob King, previously Manufacturing Director for Hovis now Group Head of Operational Excellence for Premier Foods.

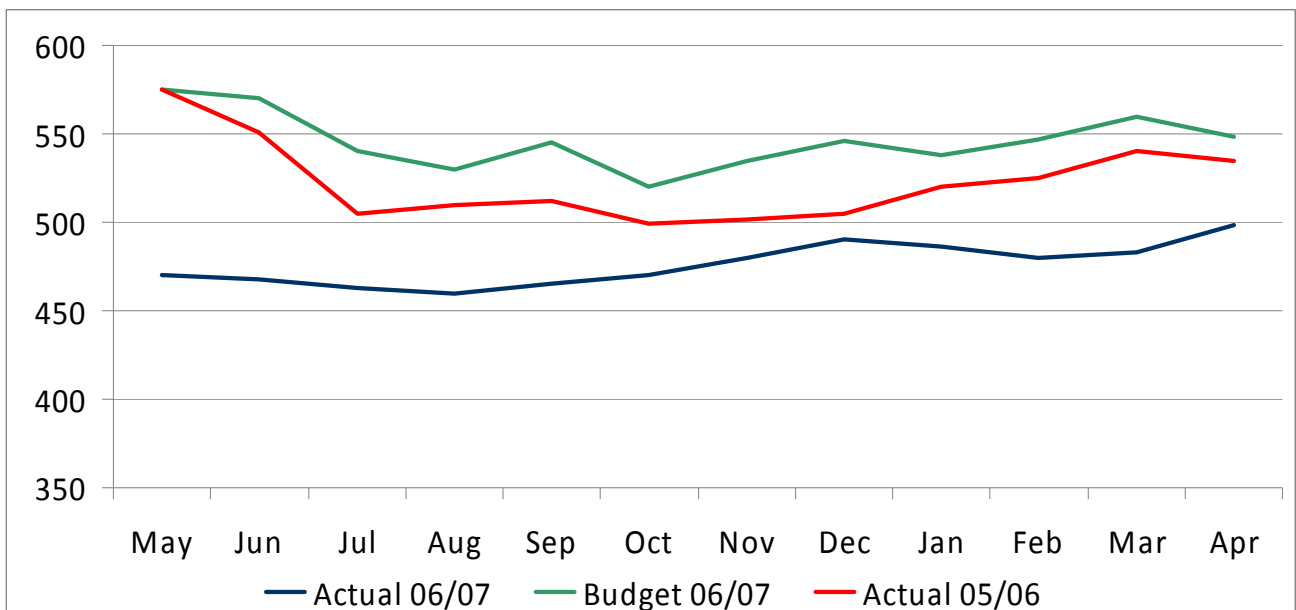
A number of production related factors contribute to wasted energy, as the following diagram illustrates. Every day unplanned production stops, slow running equipment, lack of materials and wrong date codes cause waste, not only impacting productivity, but also impacting energy efficiency.



By taking a holistic view of manufacturing production OEE, (Overall Equipment Effectiveness), calculates the average performance of productivity (throughput), availability (uptime) and quality (wastage). The Idhammar OEE Management System takes all of these and adds an energy module, providing automatic measurement, monitoring and clear reporting tools to enable forward-thinking manufacturers like Hovis, to identify areas of waste and evaluate the actions taken to improve both production and efficiency.

By using OEE to drive improvements across fifteen bakery sites, Hovis were able to benefit from huge savings to gas consumption. Far from increasing energy spend as expected in line with energy inflation, Hovis made a 7% annual reduction equivalent to £400,000 pounds to the bottom line as illustrated in the chart below.

### Manufacturing – Gas KW per hour / Tonne (saleable) YTD P5 06/07 – Cumulative View



## **About the Hovis Division of Premier Foods**

Hovis, the bread producing division of Premier Foods (the UK's largest food producer), is very familiar with high volume, high-pressure manufacturing process. Producing the nation's daily bread to the tune of 2 million loaves a day requires precision operation, efficient production and a skilled, professional workforce. One of the UK's largest plant bread bakers, Hovis has over 6,500 employees and supplies around one third of the UK's daily bread. With household brands including Hovis, Mothers Pride and Nimble, Hovis produce 15 million loaves in 450 different varieties every week. That's in addition to 850 other bakery products including crumpets, scones, rolls, croissants and pancakes.

Hovis is supported in its world class manufacturing capabilities by the use of a division-wide OEE system from Idhammar that delivers timely, reliable and accurate performance measures together with the detail necessary for a team-based approach to continuous improvement. In the last eight years this has resulted in a 15% + increase in productivity and savings of millions of pounds.

## **About Idhammar Systems Ltd.**

Idhammar Systems is a leading European provider of manufacturing efficiency solutions. Our products include Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE) and Maintenance Management Systems (MMS) which have proven their worth with a wide-range of clients in prominent blue-chip companies, from food to pharmaceutical, chemical, print, transport, energy and many more. Headquartered in Bristol, UK, Idhammar also has offices in Nordics and Benelux.