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Release: Immediate

New fridge-freezer technology beats the squeeze

Time to Change in home case study 30 year old fridge-freezer vs. A++ model

Findings:

- 80% energy saved
- 23.26 kWh vs 4.3 kWh per week
- £137 saved in electricity a year
- 3 years to recoup cost of new model
- 529 kg of CO₂ saved a year

A new case study by the Association of Manufacturers of Domestic Appliances (AMDEA)¹ for their *Time to Change*² programme shows that replacing an old fridge with an A++ rated model can save as much as £137 a year in electricity³; recouping the cost of the new appliance in just 3 years.

Sue and Ken Arthur let AMDEA into their Cheltenham family home to measure the electricity consumption of their 30 year old fridge-freezer for 3 weeks. This was then replaced by a new A++ model of an equivalent size and its electricity spend was monitored for the same period under similar usage conditions.

The dramatic results are further proof of the real value of the *Time to Change* message — that replacing appliances that are ten or more years old is a quick and easy way to save money and the environment. AMDEA's *Time to Change* campaign www.t2c.org.uk encourages the replacement of the 15.4 million appliances in the UK that are needlessly wasting energy with new generation, green models.

With the new fridge-freezer running on 80% less energy in the real life experiment it's very evident that replacing a guzzler with a new, ultra-efficient model *really is* a shrewd and effective way of cutting down electricity bills and making homes greener.

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New fridge-freezer technology beats the squeeze /2

Sue Arthur, who diligently checked the energy monitoring device every day, says “It’s unbelievable how much energy our old fridge was using. At this moment cutting such a big chunk off our electricity bill is welcome news. We are a family of four adults and like the rest of the country we are trying to be moneywise as well as watching our carbon footprint.”

Since 2007 *Time to Change* has championed the benefits of the massive £6.6 billion manufacturers have poured into the industry to develop environmentally friendly technology. The experiment in the Arthur’s household, gives us a clear idea of the savings UK families could really make by simply replacing an old fridge with a high efficiency model.

-ENDS



EDITORS' NOTES

1. AMDEA is the UK trade association for the manufacturers of large and small domestic appliances; representing over 80% of the domestic appliance industry.
2. *Time to Change* is the UK segment of a pan-European programme, organised by the European Committee of Domestic Equipment Manufacturers (CECED), to encourage the replacement of 188 million old, energy-hungry, large domestic appliances still in use across Europe.
3. The unit price of electricity used is 13.95 pence per kWh. This was the average UK value for all payment types at end of August 2008 according to the Energy Saving Trust

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