



Update
**CEE's Developing Relationship with
BOMA's Energy Efficiency Program (BEEP)**
June 5, 2006

Over the last year-and-a half, CEE has been developing a relationship with the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) Foundation in support of its BOMA Energy Efficiency Program (BEEP). This *Update* is a briefing on this effort.

BEEP is an operational excellence program that teaches commercial real estate professionals (using their own language and metrics for success) how to reduce energy consumption/costs with no- and low-cost strategies for optimizing equipment and practices. This series of six 90-minute courses is being offered to BOMA members via audio conference, with support materials delivered over the Internet in real time. CEE provided input in the development of the three completed curriculum modules (1, 2 and 3).

While the last three curriculum modules are still under development, the first of the series was launched on April 7. The titles of the course offerings and the dates that they are being offered are listed below. Currently BEEP's resources only allow them to offer a one-time training.

The course offerings include:

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| 1. Introduction to Energy Performance | (Friday, April 7) |
| 2. How to Benchmark Energy Performance | (Friday, May 12) |
| 3. Energy Efficient Audit Concepts & Economic Benefits | (Friday, June 2) |
| 4. No and Low Cost Operational Adjustments to Improve Energy Performance | (Friday, Sept. 8) |
| 5. Valuing Energy Enhancement Projects & Financial Returns | (Friday, Oct.13) |
| 6. Building an Energy Awareness Program | (Friday, Nov. 10) |

Note: Seminar times are 2-4 p.m., EST. Each seminar costs \$50 per site to Association members.

While we are still figuring out the details of how CEE members can work with BOMA members using the BEEP program, there is clearly value for both sides in pursuing this project. The value for energy-efficiency organizations (EEOs) is the ability to make stronger connections to local BOMA Association members. These connections allow CEE members to work with and provide energy-efficiency services to a hard-to-reach decision-making audience – building owners and managers of commercial real estate.

CEE has been actively working with the BOMA Foundation to provide feedback and guidance on the curriculum content. CEE's BOMA subcommittee has reviewed the first three curriculum modules, sat through dry-runs of the training courses and provided feedback and guidance on the content. We expect that the subcommittee will continue to review the remaining three curriculum modules as they are developed.

The first BEEP training module, “Introduction to Energy Efficiency,” provided a good primer on building energy performance, which built upon an ENERGY STAR message. The training emphasized the value of exploring no- and low-cost solutions to optimize the buildings energy performance rather than capital change-out projects. The training was well attended; 238 sites registered with more than 1,100 attendees participating. The second training “How to Benchmark Energy Performance” was held Friday, May 12. Since there was such a great interest in attending they had to cap the enrollment and are offering this course again in August. The third module “Energy Efficient Audit Concepts & Economic Benefits” took place on Friday, June 2.

With the BEEP effort underway, the BOMA Foundation will be learning more about their members’ follow-up needs and the administration requirements of this training serious. CEE’s continued discussions with the BOMA Foundation have focused on developing effective local partnerships. To help us figure this out, the BOMA Foundation has agreed to catalogue questions and issues that are raised at the training courses and will share that information with CEE. We are also working with CEE members and the BOMA Foundation to design two pilot efforts– one in New York and one in the Northwest–to test partnering approaches and to learn from their local experiences.

Our plan over the next few months includes:

1. CEE staff and members attending BEEP training sessions to better understanding BEEP’s messaging,
2. Exploring different program approaches that would support the emphasis of (benchmarking and no- and low-cost opportunities) training curriculum, and
3. Exploring the possibility of pooling CEE members’ funds or alternative funding strategies to help add infrastructure for BEEP in order to expand the availability of the coarse offerings.

If you would like further information about the BEEP program and curriculum content you can go to www.boma.org/TrainingAndEducation/BEEP . If you have questions regarding CEE’s effort in this area please contact Denise Rouleau at drouleau@cee1.org.