

Introduction: Session 4: Energy, Conservation and Recycling II

Increasingly institutions and governments are becoming more environmentally aware and legislation is starting to affect decisions made by suppliers and purchasers of controlled environments. The use of refrigerants, the availability and use of energy as well as disposal of controlled environments are increasingly being governed by regulations and laws laid down by national governments who in turn are being influenced by agreements made on a global scale. The Kyoto protocols are influencing national governments in legislation as well as how they fund new projects involving controlled environments.

This session primarily discussed energy policy and how it related to the use of controlled environments. Speakers from Europe (Mike Hadlow), North America (John Sager), Australia (Lance Hoare) and Japan (Yoshi Kitaya) discussed how governmental policies and regulations influence the design and operation of controlled environments as well as highlighting practical solutions to challenges represented by reducing energy consumption.

Sessions 3 and 4 were followed by a lively discussion, led by the eight speakers on the various topics raised.