

One million LED light bulbs saves the Shoprite Group R346 million in electricity costs

The Shoprite Group has reduced its electricity consumption by 11.8% following the installation of 1 001 932 energy-efficient LED lightbulbs across 1 647 of its supermarkets and distribution centres nationwide.

This has eased pressure on the national electricity grid as well as generated savings of 164 million kWh and R346 million in electricity costs for the Group during its 2022/2023 financial year.

“By taking a proactive stance in energy planning, the Shoprite Group has bolstered its stores’ energy resilience to withstand both anticipated and unforeseen disruptions in energy supply and electricity tariffs,” said Sanjeev Raghbir, Sustainability Manager for the Shoprite Group.

The retailer’s investment in its LED replacement project, which commenced in 2017, totals R371.1 million to date, including R48.7 million over the past year.

“LED lamps are typically 50% more energy efficient than fluorescent lamps, and we encourage everyone to play their part in reducing their energy consumption to stabilise our national grid,” adds Raghbir.

It forms part of the Group’s strategy to improve energy efficiency as much as possible and then to use renewable energy across its operations including distribution centres, trucks and trailers.

In addition to the LED installations, the retailer has more than doubled its installed capacity of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems over the past two years. Currently, 71 sites covering 174,534 m² are equipped with solar PV, resulting in a total installed capacity of 32,321 kWp. This is sufficient to power 4,554 average sized households annually.

The Shoprite Group aims to power 25% of its operations with renewable energy within the next five years as part of its commitment to reach science-based emission targets by 2050.

Installing solar PV on trailers is also a priority for the retailer as it enables drivers to switch off truck ignitions at delivery locations, reducing exhaust pollution while keeping the cold chain intact.

In 2022, it expanded the number of trailers in its fleet equipped with solar PV to 1,041.

These interventions have helped to reduce the Group’s electricity costs, increased efficiency, and enhanced business resilience.

END

Keep up to date with the Shoprite Group’s latest news: [sign up](#) to receive all the latest [news](#) published on the Shoprite Holdings website, or follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).