Energy Management Jobs: Survey of the Energy Industry

The Association of Energy Engineers® (AEE®), a nonprofit professional society of over 17,000 members, issued a survey to its members to determine the need for energy management jobs, energy industry potential, and salary data. The results represented are based on 2,512 responses and our outlined in this report. AEE was founded in 1977 and its mission is “to promote the scientific and educational interests of those engaged in the energy industry and to foster action for Sustainable Development.”

Profile of Respondents

- Eighty-five percent (85%) have graduated from a four-year accredited college
- Forty-four percent (44%) have a post-graduate degree from an accredited college
- Sixty-three percent (38%) are Professional Engineers
- Eighty percent (80%) are certified in one or more of the following categories:

1. Certified Energy Manager® (CEM®)
2. Energy Manager in Training (EMIT™)
3. Certified Energy Auditor™ (CEA®)
4. Certified Sustainable Development Professional (CSDP®)
5. Certified Carbon Reduction Manager (CRM®)
7. Certified Water Efficiency Professional (CWEP)
8. Certified Green Building Engineer (GBE®)
9. Certified Energy Procurement Professional (CEP)
10. Certified Lighting Efficiency Professional (CLEP)
11. Distributed Generation Certified Professional (DGCP)
12. Certified Measurement & Verification Professional® (CMVP®)
13. Certified GeoExchange Designer (CGD®)
14. Certified Power Quality Professional (CPQ®)
15. Certified Residential Energy Auditor (REA)
16. Certified Renewable Energy Professional (REP)
17. Existing Building Commissioning Professional (EBCP)
18. Certified Building Commissioning Professional (CBCP®)
19. Certified Indoor Air Quality Professional (CIAQP)
20. Certified Building Energy Simulation (BESA)
21. Certified Building Energy & Sustainability Technician (BEST)
23. Energy Efficiency Practitioner (EEP)
How many years of energy management experience do you have?

- 0-5 years: 26%
- 6-10 years: 27%
- 11-15 years: 14%
- 16-20 years: 7%
- 21-25 years: 7%
- 26-30 years: 5%
- Over 36 years: 3%
Is there a shortage today of energy management professionals?

- No: 34%
- Yes: 66%

Do you feel that there will be a shortage of qualified professionals in the energy efficiency and renewable energy field within the next five years?

- No: 36%
- Yes: 64%

14% of AEE Members surveyed plan to retire within the next five years

34% of AEE Members surveyed plan to retire within the next ten years

50% say their companies plan to hire energy professionals in the next 12 months
Please input your base salary as of January 1, 2015

Average Salary is $98,974.75
Please indicate any bonus you received last year.

- $0: 40.7%
- $1 - $1,000: 7.1%
- $1,000 - $5,000: 17.3%
- $5,000 - $10,000: 13.4%
- $10,000 - $20,000: 9.9%
- $20,000 - $30,000: 4.9%
- $30,000 - $40,000: 2.0%
- $40,000 - $50,000: 1.4%
- $50,000 - $100,000: 1.6%
- $Over $100,000: 1.6%

Average Bonus is $8,344.94.
Are you a graduate from a 4-year accredited college?

- No: 15%
- Yes: 85%

Do you have a post-graduate degree from an accredited college?

- No: 56%
- Yes: 44%

Are you a registered Professional Engineer?

- No: 63%
- Yes: 37%

Are you a Registered Architect?

- No: 99%
- Yes: 1%
Do you hold a valid certification from AEE (i.e. CEM, CEA, BEP, CBCP, CMVP, etc.?)?

- Yes, 79.6%
- No, 10.9%
- In process of obtaining, 9.5%

78% of those surveyed feel they need additional training in the following topics:

- Skills update for energy managers: 25%
- Advanced courses in auditing: 11%
- Advanced courses in building commissioning: 11%
- Measurement & verification: 11%
- Smart grid/demand response: 7%
- Carbon reduction and GHG management: 4%
- Water efficiency: 5%
- Alternative energy & renewables: 10%
- Performance contracting and project financing: 8%
- Other: 8%
Are you a Certified Energy Manager® (CEM®)?

- Yes: 62%
- No: 38%

If you are a CEM, what would best describe your field of work?

- Consultant or Contractor to End User: 25%
- Project Management/Engineer: 12%
- Other: 11%
- ESCO: 9%
- Utility Account Manager: 6%
- Institutional Energy Manager: 2%
- Contractor: 3%
- Industrial Energy Manager: 3%
- Facility Manager: 6%
- Energy Manager at a Company/End User: 12%
- Energy Manager in a Government Facility: 9%
- Energy Executive: 4%
What is most challenging about your job?

- Getting projects approved by top management: 31%
- Approval of new and innovative energy management technologies: 29%
- People management skills: 16%
- Other: 24%

Earning an AEE certification credential has helped or will help my career?

- Yes, 86%
- No, 14%
Earning an AEE certification has benefited or will benefit my firm?

- Yes: 85%
- No: 15%

Since receiving an AEE certification, **64%** are receiving higher compensation than before.

Since receiving an AEE certification, **63%** are receiving higher visibility.

Since receiving an AEE certification, **62%** are in a better position for advancement.
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