

**Bardwell Consulting**  
We Make Statistics Work for You



**Integrated Home Energy**  
Whole House Energy Solutions

Minimize Your Ecological Footprint  
Save up to 60% with Rebates & Credits

<<Andy Bardwell, December 1, 2008>>

## Product Background / Overview

OptiMiser is a PC-based program that creates and evaluates a full range of near-optimal solutions for energy retrofits. It offers a flexible and efficient tool for the home energy analyst, minimizing required data entry and fully integrating renewable energy technologies. The Colorado Governor's Energy Office provided a New Energy Economy Development grant which was used to complete and launch the distributable version of OptiMiser.

OptiMiser will provide market incentives to the three principal participants in the home energy retrofit market by:

- (1) enabling *home energy raters* to effectively market renewable energy and conduct better audits more efficiently;
- (2) increasing sales of renewable energy products and enabling *suppliers* to cross-market solar thermal and photovoltaics; and
- (3) Providing *owners* with near-optimal energy retrofit solutions.

These benefits will result in more widespread implementation of energy efficiency and renewable energy systems.

## Requirements Scenario

During the development of OM Builder, we realized that no current energy auditing program provides a reporting function. As a result, auditors typically have to maintain Word documents with boiler plate text for their reports. Report generation is a process of hand editing this document to prepare reports for customers. From our experience in the construction and real estate development industries, we were aware that software for the home inspection industry focuses primarily on generating well designed reports for customers. Benchmarking our work on the best software from the home inspection industry, we have developed a module that allows auditors to construct full-featured reports efficiently. Our design criteria for the Report Module included:

- The ability to select narrative from a database of text sections;
- Add photos, tabular reports, and charts;
- Produce a word document will allow the auditor to do any final editing in a familiar environment.

## Solution Implementation

Aspose Editor provided an elegant and seamless solution for multiple steps in this process:

- Aspose is used in the Report Library Editor to provide the user full featured editing of the narrative sections:
- Aspose converts the formatted narratives to HTML which can be stored in our text only database;
- Aspose provides the integrated WYSIWYG viewing environment during maintenance of the Report Library, and during selection of narrative sections in the Report Generator; and finally
- Aspose provides a powerful method of assembling the narrative sections, photographs and charts applying a word template and producing the final Word document.

The result is a report generation modules then improves on the best of the home inspection software by providing a powerful and efficient tool to maintain a data base of report content and compile detailed reports.

OptiMiser Partners have provided all their narrative content that they have developed over their decades of experience producing auditing reports. Our Partners are using the OptiMiser Report Module powered by Aspose to integrate that narrative into the final Report Module.

## Benefits

In our survey of available products Aspose is one of the few programs that provide the ability to create Word Documents. In addition Aspose's ability to deal with multiple file formats allowed us to use the Aspose Editing environment to create HTML text-based storage system to manage formatted document material. Aspose provides the power to integrate templates and all the required formatting features. Finally Aspose allowed us to integrate all of these futures into our program and no idiosyncrasies for which we had to compensate.

## Future Implementations

We are meeting with the Governor's Office of Energy next week to discuss ongoing partnerships. Our partners include the City of Boulder, Boulder County and the largest Energy Auditing Firms in Colorado, all these partners are anxious to expand distribution of OptiMiser.

## Conclusion

As you can tell from the description above, our experience with Aspose has been very positive our only disappointment is that we worked on the product during the trial period under the understanding that the cost would be considerably less. Since our project is funding entirely by contributions of our partners, the State of Colorado and our own firm, cost is *an issue* so we sincerely hope you will reduce the price by the maximum amount possible.

<b>Project / Client:</b>		Bardwell/LaPlaca	4801 W. Yale	Denver, CO	303-934-3851																																																																														
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Program Data Entry Screen

**Project / Client:** Bardwell/LaPlaca 4801 W. Yale Denver, CO Phone: 303-934-3651

**Integrated Home Energy Optimiser**

Detail data  Help  
 Other loads  GHG & financial

User input - used in design calculations  
 User selection - sets design parameters  
 User input - for reference only  
 Model output - for reference only unless bordered

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**Utility Entry**

Building square feet: 2,900

Natural gas - mmBtu: 180,000  
 132,000  
 85%  
 82,118

Heating System  
 Fuel type: Natural gas  
 Rated input capacity (Btu): 180,000  
 Rated output capacity (Btu): 132,000  
 Seasonal efficiency: 85%  
 Derated capacity for: Denver, CO altitude: 5,260 feet.

Water heating system seasonal efficiency: 65%

Month	Days	kWh	Cost	Therms	Cost	Avg. Temp.	Deg. Days @ 65	Heat Smooth
Oct-05	29	333	\$33.09	40	\$53.46	57	232	
Nov-05	27	397	\$42.21	76	\$100.96	49	432	116
Dec-05	34	562	\$67.55	232	\$273.86	31	1,156	144
Jan-06	33	471	\$49.50	124	\$161.15	42	759	161
Feb-06	30	396	\$41.75	127	\$146.96	33	960	114
Mar-06	29	253	\$29.08	91	\$91.25	39	754	86
Apr-06	29	390	\$41.45	40	\$43.19	51	406	61
May-06	31	548	\$51.79	51	\$48.94	57	248	41
Jun-06	29	541	\$50.91	31	\$32.25	73	-	37
Jul-06	31	569	\$44.29	29	\$30.31	74	-	28
Aug-06	28	547	\$52.06	25	\$27.66	78	-	27
Sep-06	35	485	\$45.95	27	\$34.12	66	-	
<b>Annual</b>		<b>5,492</b>	<b>\$542.83</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>\$1,044.11</b>		<b>4,947</b>	<b>324</b>
<b>Monthly</b>		<b>458</b>	<b>\$45.24</b>		<b>\$87.01</b>		<b>412</b>	<b>27</b>

Cost/Unit: Base cost \$10.99 \$ / kWh \$0.075 Base cost -\$2.37 \$ / Therm \$1.20

Other gas loads:  
 Gas range: 1 Hours/day x 0.08 Therms/hr. = 0  
 Gas oven: 1 Hours/wk. x 0.11 Therms/hr. = 0  
 Gas dryer: 1 Loads/wk. x 0.22 Therms/d. = 12

Pilot Light: 0  
 Total other gas load = 50  
 Total other gas load % of adj. heat + hot water = 8%

Estimated annual adjusted to average temperature  
 Heat utility usage = 897  
 Heat load (energy delivered) = 453  
 Heat + hot water load (energy delivered) = 631

Estimated hot water utility usage = 274  
 Estimated hot water load (energy delivered) = 178  
 Est. hot water load % of adj. heat + hot water = 28%

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**Base Case Electricity System (Baseline)**

Fuel type	Fuel mix (%)	CO <sub>2</sub> emission factor (kg/GJ)	CH <sub>4</sub> emission factor (kg/GJ)	N <sub>2</sub> O emission factor (kg/GJ)	GHG emission factor (tCO <sub>2</sub> /MWh)	Fuel conversion efficiency (%)	GHG emission factor with efficiency (tCO <sub>2</sub> /MWh)
Natural Gas	30.0%	56.1	0.0030	0.0010	0.2226	45.0%	0.4911
Coal	70.0%	94.6	0.0020	0.0030	0.3754	35.0%	0.9830
Electric generation							0.8354

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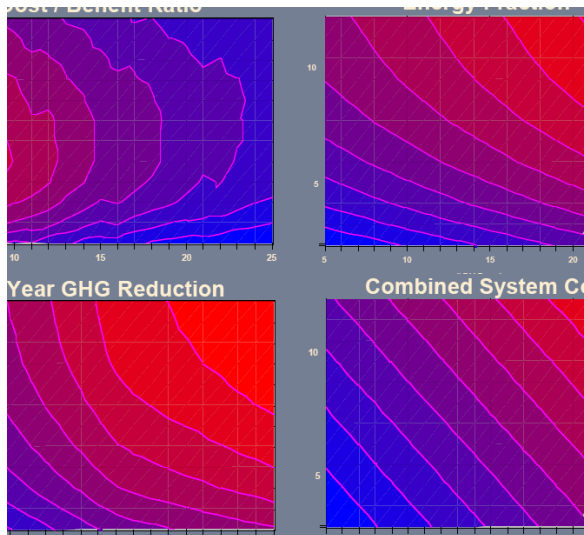
**Financial parameters**

General  
 Fuel cost escalation rate: 6.0%  
 Inflation rate: 2.5%  
 Discount rate: 6.0%  
 State + Federal tax rate: 0.0%

Project life heat system: 30  
 Project life PV: 30  
 Project life solar thermal: 30

Debt ratio heat system: 0.0%  
 Debt ratio PV: 0.0%  
 Debt ratio solar thermal: 0.0%

Program Data Entry Screen



Icon for OptiMiser