



## **MOTEL 6 OCEANSIDE DOWNTOWN LEAVES THE ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHT ON FOR YOU**

Motel 6 in Oceanside Downtown must hold true to their popular slogan, “We’ll leave the *light* on for you.” A very warm and friendly welcoming for all their guests, but when taken literally, it’s not exactly practical when referring to motel operation costs.

When the motel was built in 2003 as a beautiful beachfront property, energy efficiency was top-of-mind considering the hot summer temperatures in San Diego County. The motel management had a new mindset, “We’ll leave the energy efficiency light on for you.”

According to Motel 6 Oceanside Downtown General Manager Rob Fairfield, since the beginning of operations in 2003, they incorporated low impact lighting, plumbing, and air conditioning to save energy and water and minimize their operating costs.

However, their utility bills were still high and they remained committed to doing their part to help the environment and community through energy and water efficiency. Mr. Fairfield took the Energy Challenger survey to assess the motel’s energy efficiency needs and to find ways to improve.

“We noticed the cost of energy increasing every year and because we’re open 24-7 and have guests coming in and out constantly, our electric bills are very high,” said Fairfield. “We had to stop and look at ways we could save money and the Energy Challenger survey provided very helpful recommendations. But even more importantly, we took the Energy Challenger survey because being energy efficient is the right thing to do.”

After taking the survey, Motel 6 Oceanside Downtown implemented energy and water efficiency practices, including the installation of low-flow showerhead and faucet restrictors, and 24 compact fluorescent lamps. They also replaced 20 exterior lights with new low-voltage spotlights.

Motel 6 Oceanside Downtown received an Excellence in Energy Award from the San Diego Energy Resource Center. The San Diego Excellence in Energy (SANDEE) Awards showcase the year’s outstanding projects, people and activities that achieve significant energy savings through improved efficiency, conservation or the use of renewable resources.

Management at Motel 6 Oceanside Downtown plan to continue their energy efficiency practices and are considering installation of solar panels to heat the pool and spa in 2010.

“We recommend Energy Challenger to any business looking to do their part to help the community while saving money on their electric bills,” said Fairfield. “We will continue to do our part at Motel 6.”

While Motel 6 will still leave the light on for their guests, we can all be assured that those lights are in fact energy efficient.