

Project Overview

Industrial Assessment Team Intern: Kara Scheel

Major: Biological Systems Engineering

School: University of Nebraska – Lincoln



Project Description:

During the summer of 2011, Kara Scheel provided brief assistance for four businesses while assisting with the assessment of several other businesses in the Nebraska area as a member of the Industrial Assessment (IA) team. These businesses ranged from large corporations to vehicle repair shops. Waste assessments performed at these locations focused on lighting, water usage, solid waste, and hazardous materials. Based on findings during the waste assessments, technical assistance was provided to each business to aid in the reduction of waste and pollution.

The four waste assessments were conducted at the Lincoln Airport Authority in Lincoln, NE, the Nebraska Forest Service in Mead, NE, State Farm located in Lincoln, NE, and the Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital in Omaha, NE. Lincoln Airport Authority and the Nebraska Forest Service were general waste assessments while State Farm and the Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital were specific projects focusing around waterless urinals and food service respectively.

Pollution Prevention Benefits and Results:

Various pollution prevention opportunities were identified for the businesses that were assisted throughout the summer. Table 1 below summarizes the potential pollution prevention opportunities and benefits.

Table 1. Summary of Potential Benefits

Facility	Annual Cost Savings	Energy Savings (kwh/yr)	Solid Waste Diverted (lbs/yr)	Water Conserved (gal/yr)	GHG Reductions (MT CO ₂ e)
Lincoln Airport Authority	\$22,500	457,700	—	—	440
Nebraska Forest Service	\$300	5700	—	—	5
State Farm	\$3100	--	--	600,000	2
Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital	\$4900		3600	130,000	10
Total	\$30,800	463,400	3600	730,000	457

Other benefits include:

- Reducing regulatory burden and maintenance
- Reducing “upstream” energy generation and conserving natural resources
- Becoming a part of the Buy Fresh Buy Local® Nebraska organization to improve company image