Small & Medium Sized Manufacturer Energy Use Check List

Taking several simple steps can help manufacturers identify commonly overlooked opportunities for energy savings, and establish an energy management strategy that saves money year after year. Use this checklist to get started and begin saving 10 percent or more. Detailed information for each step is provided at

1. Assess the energy use of your facilities and set a goal

- _____ Benchmark plant energy use using ENERGY STAR plant energy performance indicators or another benchmarking system
- _____ Set an energy savings goal
- 2. Improve common plant systems (motors, compressed air, steam, process heating, combustion, etc.)
- _____ Evaluate for waste and misuse of systems
- _____ Operate systems as designed
- Eliminate leaks, increase insulation (where appropriate)
- _____ Size systems for plant needs and adjust as needs change

3. Turn off what is not needed

- _____ Walk through plant when it is not operating to identify unnecessary energy uses
- _____ Where appropriate, check hours of operation and settings on equipment
- _____ Create list of energy shut-down procedures and review with plant managers and employees
- _____ Inspect plant adherence to shutdown procedures periodically

4. Get employees involved

- Hold a staff meeting on facility energy use, costs, objectives, and employee responsibilities
- Encourage procurement of ENERGY STAR Products and other energy efficient equipment, where available

5. Check the lights

- Turn off when not in use; compare light schedule with plant use to look for reduction opportunities
- _____ Maximize use of task lighting, daylight, occupancy sensors
- _____ Replace old fluorescent and incandescent lighting with T8s and CFL bulbs
- _____ Implement a regular lighting maintenance program

Continue to Save with an Energy Management Strategy

The steps in this checklist represent a good start toward real energy savings. These savings can continue if a long-term strategic energy management plan is put in place. For more information on business improvements, visit www.energystar.gov.