



Performance Track Member Environmental Goals

Performance Track requires applicants and members to demonstrate a commitment to continuous environmental improvement by implementing policies and systems that go beyond regulatory compliance. In meeting this criterion, applicants commit to four quantitative goals for improving their environmental performance. Small facilities are only required to commit to two goals.

Members also complete an Annual Performance Report to demonstrate their progress to EPA and the public. EPA has recently developed two new types of goals, challenge goals and alternate goals, that expand the ways in which members can achieve continuous environmental improvements. Actual examples of Performance Track members' initial commitments are provided below:

Solid and Hazardous Waste

Reductions in waste generation are the most popular environmental goals Performance Track members set, accounting for almost 400 goals since the program's inception. Rohm and Haas Electronic Materials, a 2006 Environmental Performance Award winner, has made major reductions in the use of hazardous materials. Through process mapping and other pollution prevention approaches, Rohm and Haas improved its per-batch use of acetone by a third, and improved its per-batch ethyl lactate use by 16 percent through more efficient cleaning schedules and internally recycling the material.

Air Emissions

Air emission goals are the second most common goals Performance Track members set, accounting for 234

goals since 2000. These goals include reductions in emissions of greenhouse gases, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), air toxics, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides (NO_x), particulate matter (PM₁₀), and sulfur oxides (SO_x). Performance Track Corporate Leader Xanterra Parks and Resorts is reducing its emissions of several of these pollutants through the installation of a solar photovoltaic energy system. The system, which is larger than six football fields and will be one of the largest in the country, will supply 1 Megawatt of power to Xanterra's Death Valley National Park facilities. According to Xanterra, the system will avoid emissions of more than 284,000 tons of carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide over the next 30 years, and will help the company exceed its goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent.

Energy Use

Energy use goals are some of the more common environmental goals set by Performance Track members, accounting for 213 goals since 2000.

The Delta Faucet Company of Jackson, Tennessee committed to a significant reduction in energy use by decreasing the temperature in water degreasing tanks from 180 degrees to room temperature. The dramatic temperature reduction would decrease the energy use (Btu) by 99.5 percent in the degreasers.

Materials Use

Since 2000, 223 goals to reduce materials use were set by Performance Track members. New Hampshire Ball Bearings, Inc. in Peterborough, New Hampshire made a commitment goal to reduce their total materials use



of oil consumption by 30 percent. Process improvements in primary areas as well as employee involvement were included in their performance commitment to reuse and recycle oil at their facility.

Water Use

Water use reductions are another common environmental goal among Performance Track members, accounting for 174 goals since the program's inception. One of the 2007 Environmental Performance Award winners, McNeil PPC, achieved a 24 percent reduction in water use between 2003 and 2005. This reduction was achieved in part by a hot-loop system that uses high temperature water to kill bacteria, thereby eliminating the need for purging spent process water. McNeil PPC also improved its condensate recovery system with the installation of new flash tanks, pumps, traps, and high-pressure de-aeration equipment. Modifications in the distribution system and controls for purified water increased the life of filters, thus reducing the volume of water discharged to drains. Finally, by adopting longer production cycles, the plant reduced the number of changeovers and cleanings required for tanks, piping, and vessels.

Challenge Goals

Performance Track applicants can commit to challenge goals, which are goals that address a specific environmental priority. Unlike regular goals, challenge goals require an applicant to commit to a minimum improvement as measured by a specific metric. These environmental improvements count as two performance goals,

so an applicant only has to commit to two additional goals (small facilities must still make an additional goal). Facilities can commit to multiple challenge goals but will only receive "two-for-one" credit for one challenge goal. A small facility may commit to a challenge goal, but must still make an additional goal.

There are both National and Regional Challenge Goals. There are currently national challenge goals in four categories: water use, Priority Chemicals reduction, energy use, and habitat preservation. Each EPA region also offers distinct regional challenge goals. To learn more about the regional challenge goals, and the challenge goal option in general, visit www.epa.gov/performancetrack/program/challcomm.htm.

Alternate Goals

Alternate goals are only available to Performance Track members. These goals are proposed by members and address environmental performance indicators that are not included in the Environmental Performance Table or are not directly related to the facility's operations. Alternate goals must address an important environmental problem and include a plan to demonstrate continued progress to meet the particular goal. All alternate goals are reviewed by EPA staff, and over two dozen alternate goals have been improved to date. Examples of member's alternate goals include LEED building certification, sustainable forestry, and watershed support. For more information on alternate goals, visit www.epa.gov/performancetrack/program/altcomm.htm.

For more information on setting environmental goals, please refer to the Environmental Performance Table at
www.epa.gov/performancetrack/members/downloads/final_ept.pdf