

Reducing Energy Use

The U.S. Postal Service has a goal of reducing total facility energy use 30 percent by FY 2015. Building on its history of environmental innovation, USPS is working to create a culture of conservation among nearly 554,000 employees, across 32,000 facilities and among its suppliers and partners in the mailing industry.

- Between 2003 and 2010, USPS reduced overall building related energy consumption 9.9 **trillion British thermal units (Btu)**. That is a 29.4 percent reduction and is the energy equivalent of the amount of energy used by more than 100,000 average U.S. households in one year.
- **Detailed energy audits** at the largest energy-consuming buildings, which account for the majority of the Postal Service's energy consumption, have identified trillions of Btus of potential energy reductions. Since FY 2007, these audits have helped us identify potential energy reductions of nearly 3 trillion Btu per year, with potential cost savings of more than \$150 million per year.
- The USPS Enterprise Energy Management System (EEMS) helps manage all aspects of facility energy performance under one system. EEMS consolidates internal and external facility-related energy data so the Postal Service can **measure, monitor, and manage facility energy performance**. EEMS is unmatched across government and industry in its size and scope.
- Revisions to USPS building design standards call for **high efficiency** HVAC, lighting, and windows when these items need to be replaced, and for automated controls to enable each building system to operate with maximum energy efficiency.
- The USPS Utility Management System (UMS) streamlines and centralizes utility bill payment and verification and captures **detailed consumption and cost data** from USPS' largest facilities for the most common utilities.
- Lighting and lighting controls in mail-processing facilities continue to be upgraded to include energy-efficient fluorescent lighting, reducing energy use and creating a **cleaner environment** and brighter workplace.
- The Postal Service continues to pursue several types of **renewable energy technologies** in facilities around the country, including the use of solar energy and geothermal heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC).
- With the **largest civilian fleet of alternative fuel-capable vehicles** (more than 44,000), USPS is using several **low energy mail delivery methods**. Mail is delivered by bicycle in Arizona and Florida. And 2-ton electric vehicles have been delivering mail in New York City since 2001. Three-wheel electric vehicles are being tested as possible replacements for traditional gasoline delivery vehicles in Florida, California and Arizona. USPS continues to research and test a wide range of alternative fuels and alternative-fuel capable vehicles.
- USPS field managers know that helping reduce corporate energy and fuel use can save money and reduce our carbon footprint. **The Postal Service is the first federal agency to add energy and fuel reduction metrics to its managers' annual pay-for-performance reviews.** Facility energy and vehicle fuel are included in their national performance assessment scores each year.