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Sustainability in Action at Sherwin-Williams Plant in Richmond

On December 3, 47 attendees gathered at the Sherwin-Williams facility in Richmond for a facility tour and the inaugural meeting of the Kentucky Energy Alliance. Attendees got a first-hand look at the energy management techniques that helped the company realize a 24.9 percent drop in electricity usage between 2006 (their baseline year) and 2009. Sherwin-Williams has implemented dozens of energy-saving projects over the past few years, and has been recognized nationally for its significant progress in energy efficiency.



Gary Satler, Manager for Engineering, Maintenance & Safety, presented a case study detailing the facility's progress.



Energy efficiency equipment at the Sherwin-Williams facility: compressed air heat recovery and peak meter (above) and HVLS fan (below).

EPR for Packaging:
What can we learn from
successes of the
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Canada?—January 20,
1:00-2:30 p.m. ET

Best Practices to
Improve Energy
Performance in
Commercial Buildings—
Webinar—January 25,
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
ET

Gary Satler, Manager for Engineering, Maintenance & Safety at the facility, presented a case study detailing the progress that has been made. During the facility tour, numerous members of the site sustainability team talked with meeting attendees, explained projects, highlighted the returns achieved and discussed lessons learned.



Describing Sherwin-Williams' commitment to sustainability, Mr. Satler said, "Our site has made energy reduction a critical component of our continuous improvement mindset. The projects completed over the past several years have had a positive impact on site expenses while improving morale, work atmosphere and the appearance of the site." He added that as they implemented more sustainability projects, and the returns on investment continued to add up, they have been able to get financial support for more capital-intensive projects. The initiative taken by the sustainability team at the Richmond Plant has proven itself and is now being implemented company-wide.

Tour Highlight

Many people on the tour expressed great interest in the LED lighting being tested at the facility. Mr. Satler said, "At the Richmond Plant we are trialing T8 LED lighting due to the significant energy reduction along with reduced maintenance costs." The T8 LED lights under trial are only 15 total watts each. This is a significant drop from most T8 bulbs that are 32 watts.

Kentucky Energy Alliance

The inaugural meeting of the Kentucky Energy Alliance (KEA) also took place at Sherwin-Williams. KEA's mission is to promote and achieve better energy management through networking, program activities and education. The Alliance is targeted to industrial and large commercial facilities. During the KEA meeting, representatives from Kindred Healthcare and Reynolds Packaging each gave short overviews of what their companies have been doing to improve energy management. Attendees asked questions and received feedback from their peers about what works and what doesn't at their facilities. The Alliance will begin holding regular meetings in 2011 and will be open to all industries in Kentucky. Watch future editions of this newsletter for details.

Thanks to our Host

KPPC thanks the Sherwin-Williams team for graciously hosting the meeting, sharing their experiences with attendees and providing lunch for the visitors.

Carbon Offsets

As part of its commitment to hosting environmentally-friendly events, KPPC purchased 1.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide offsets for this event. The credits were purchased through the [Mountain Association for Community Economic Development \(MACED\)](#).

U.S. EPA Seeks New Timetable for Reducing Pollution from

Boilers and Incinerators

On December 7, U.S. EPA filed a motion in District Court requesting an extension in the current court-ordered schedule for issuing [rules that would reduce harmful air emissions from large and small boilers and solid waste incinerators](#). After receiving more than 4,800 public comments to the new emissions standards it proposed in April 2010, the agency believes it is appropriate to issue a revised proposal that reflects the new data and allows for additional public comment. EPA's motion seeks to extend the schedule to finalize the rules by April 2012.



EPA has estimated that there are more than 200,000 boilers operating in industrial facilities, commercial buildings, hotels and universities located in highly populated areas and communities across the country. EPA has estimated that for every \$5 spent on reducing these pollutants, the public will see \$12 in health and other benefits.

Newsbits

- **USGBC Wood Policy Stands (for Now) After Battle Over Eco-Labels**

From GreenerBuildings - After a lengthy and contentious review, members of the U.S. Green Building Council -- the organization behind the LEED rating system -- rejected a proposal that would have opened the door to wood certified under various eco-labels to be considered for LEED credit.



While the status quo has not changed -- only products certified by the Forest Stewardship Council are recognized under the rating system -- don't expect the issue over LEED credit for wood products to fade away.

On December 13, the USGBC announced the outcome of balloting on the proposal to change the wood credit rule, which required a two-thirds majority for approval. Fifty-five percent voted in favor, 42 percent opposed it and 3 percent abstained. [Read more.](#)

- **Third Annual Green Building Market & Impact Report Available**

This report explores in detail the growth of green buildings, and projects their impacts out for the next 20 years. It shows that LEED buildings are making a major impact in reducing the overall environmental footprint of individual structures. However, significant additional progress is possible and



necessary on both the individual building level and in terms of market penetration if LEED is to contribute in a meaningful way to reducing the environmental footprint of buildings in the U.S. and worldwide.

[Download the report](#) for free.

Green Tip Inspect and Repair Steam Traps

Industrial Technologies Program

[From Industrial Technologies Program Steam Tip Sheet #1](#) - In steam systems that have not been maintained for 3 to 5 years, between 15 to 30 percent of the installed steam traps may have failed—thus allowing live steam to escape into the condensate return system. In systems with a regularly scheduled maintenance program, leaking traps should account for less than 5 percent of the trap population. If your steam distribution system includes more than 500 traps, a steam trap survey will probably reveal significant steam losses.

Suggested Actions

Steam traps are tested primarily to determine whether they are functioning properly and not allowing live steam to blow through.

- Establish a program for the regular systematic inspection, testing and repair of steam traps.
- Include a reporting mechanism to ensure thoroughness and to provide a means of documenting energy and dollar savings.

KPPC News

- **Offices Will Close for the Holidays**
Due to the University of Louisville's administrative holiday shutdown, KPPC offices will close at noon on December 23 and will reopen on January 3, 2011.

- **SHARE Holiday Collection**
Assisting with this year's food donation program at the University of Louisville, KPPC collected nearly 125 non-perishable food items at the UofL Shelby Campus. The donations were made as part of UofL's Staff Help Assistance Relief Effort (SHARE) program. The program assists UofL staff during the holiday season and throughout the year. SHARE operates through the donations of UofL staff.



Mark your Calendar for these Upcoming Conferences and Events

Waste to Energy: Anaerobic Digestion—January 10, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. ET—Frankfort

Hearing more about greenhouse gas regulations? Looking for more information on waste-to-energy projects? Anaerobic Digestion is not a new process, but one that is receiving increasing attention from an energy perspective.



A one-day class will give participants an orientation to the process, detail the energy potential in Kentucky for these projects, as well as discuss financing options and actual case studies. This is a general introductory class designed for those thinking about a waste-to-energy project or those that want to learn more about the energy applications of anaerobic digestion. For workshop information and registration, visit the Division of Compliance Assistance website (<http://dca.ky.gov>).

EPR for Packaging: What can we learn from successes of the European Directive and Canada?—January 20, 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET

Nearly one-third of all municipal solid waste in the U.S. is packaging waste, and it is on the forefront of the sustainability agenda for both the public and private sector.

Comprehensive producer responsibility laws are in place in Europe and in several western European countries. These programs have led to a decoupling of economic growth and packaging waste. Canada has also adopted EPR as a tool to address this growing problem. This call will focus on reviewing the lessons that can be learned from their experience, with an eye to how these lessons could be incorporated into an American system. [Register for this free PSI networking conference call.](#)



Best Practices to Improve Energy Performance in Commercial Buildings—Webinar—January 25, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET

This training is an update to the popular Commercial Real Estate Best Practices training that has been offered by ENERGY STAR® since 2004, containing new, improved content developed with input from leading ENERGY STAR® partners.

The training covers proven strategies for improving the energy performance of office buildings, beginning with best practices in operations and maintenance (O&M) and continuing on to cost-effective changes to equipment and systems. Participants will learn to recognize the wide variety of energy-efficiency opportunities that are available at their properties, including procedures



to better manage the energy consumption associated with lighting, plug loads, the building envelope, and HVAC systems and controls. Estimated energy savings, financial paybacks, and examples are discussed throughout the training. [Register online](#) for this free webinar.

KPPC is Kentucky's primary resource to help businesses, industries and other organizations develop environmentally sustainable, cost-saving solutions for improved efficiency. Based at the University of Louisville J.B. Speed School of Engineering, KPPC provides technical information and assistance that is free, confidential and non-regulatory.



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