



## Environmental Stewardship Awards

# Crown Equipment Corporation, New Knoxville

In 2010, Crown Equipment Corporation, New Knoxville Facility, received a Governor's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Stewardship. The award recognizes Ohio companies and organizations committed to environmental compliance and reducing pollution.

Crown manufactures electric lift trucks used in transporting materials and goods in warehouses, distribution centers and manufacturing environments. The Crown New Knoxville facility manufactures electrical motors and plastic injection molded parts.

### ISO 14001 Certification

Crown's continuous improvement is a part of the culture of Crown New Knoxville where employees, managers and senior management all look for ways to improve the program.

In June 2010, Crown New Knoxville was the first Crown facility to obtain ISO 14000 certification. Crown's EMS has four tiers and the company has developed a policy manual, instructions, and forms.

The company updates its environmental metrics quarterly and tracks all aspects of its environmental programs, including progress in meeting goals. The company has also established a cross function team, which meets monthly to review progress towards meeting objectives and targets.

### Pursuing Zero Landfill Status

In 2008, Crown New Knoxville sent 31 percent of their waste to the landfill. The company achieved Zero Landfill Status in December 2009, recycling or diverting 43 tons of material from the local landfill. Through their zero landfill efforts, the company has achieved a 94 percent recycling rate and sends the remaining 6 percent of waste to a waste to energy facility. The company reduced its waste management costs from \$33,626 to \$15,400, resulting in \$18,000 annual savings on managing solid waste. Waste reduction was achieved through extensive recycling programs and source reduction efforts. Recycled materials include:

- cardboard and paper of all types,
- toner cartridges and electronics,
- shrink wrap, consumer plastics, plastic totes bubble wrap, packaging and wood pallets,
- shot blast dust, industrial scrap, steel, copper and aluminum, and;
- aerosol cans and shop rags.

#### Crown Equipment is recognized for:

- Achieving zero landfill in December 2009, recycling 94 percent of its wastes, resulting in 43 tons of material not sent to the landfill, and saving over \$15,000 in reduced waste management costs.
- Being the first Crown facility to achieve ISO 14001 Certification in January 2010.
- Operating the ReNEWed Motor Program to rebuild motors and extend the life of its products.
- Reducing its energy use by 6 percent and saving \$9,100 per year.

## Crown Equipment Corporation, New Knoxville

Crown regrinds and reuses industrial plastic pellets back in their injection molding process. Electric hand dryers were installed to reduce paper towel use. Vinegar solutions were used to replace other cleaners whenever applicable.

### Source Reduction

Crown has developed an extensive reNEWed Motor Program to rebuild electric motors, drive units and electronic modules for reuse to its customers. The program takes poorly working or broken motors, tears them down, and rebuilds them. Crown New Knoxville provides many of the parts for the rebuilt engine. This program extends the useful life of Crown products.

An employee suggestion led to the company's installation of a NEXTEQ Non-Chemical WaterCare System™ for their cooling tower. The system eliminated chemical additions to the cooling tower and saved the company over \$7,000 annually. The system had a one-year return on the investment.

Crown's purchasing practices demonstrate environmental awareness. The company uses water-based rather than solvent-based resins in some operations and uses paper containing 30 percent recyclable content throughout the facility. The company only purchases "environmentally friendly" cleaning materials and uses vinegar as the primary cleaning agent. It has also replaced towels with energy efficient electric hand dryers.

### Energy Management

Crown New Knoxville utilizes a campus-wide energy management system and has reduced its energy usage at this facility by 6 percent, resulting in a savings of \$9,100 per year. Energy efficiency improvements include:

- rapid shutdown of the facility at closing time, including shutting down the stator line and injection molding machines,
- changes in lighting,
- adjusting the air compressors, and;
- installing programmable thermostats throughout the facility.

### For More Information

Crown Equipment Corporation, 40-44 S. Washington Street, New Bremen, Ohio 45869, Tonja Rammel, (419) 629-2311, [Tonja.Rammel@crowncorp.com](mailto:Tonja.Rammel@crowncorp.com)

If you would like additional information about Ohio EPA's environmental stewardship award program, contact the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention (OCAPP) at 800-329-7518, or visit OCAPP's website at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/ohioe3.aspx>.