



O-AT-KA Milk Products Cooperative, Inc.

## SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

### GOAL

O-AT-KA Milk Products is dedicated to the continual reduction of its carbon footprint and to be landfill free.

### BACKGROUND

O-AT-KA supports all efforts to increase sustainability throughout the “Plant to Customer” process.

Early efforts initiated in March, 2008 consisted of a rudimentary recycling process for aluminum and steel cans.

In April, 2008 O-AT-KA formed a sustainability team supported by senior management and capital expenditures.

### CURRENT PROGRAM

The Sustainability Team developed and implemented a full program including:

#### 1. RECYCLING

- a) Created a dedicated recycling room for the collection of all materials including steel, aluminum, glass, plastic and wood.
- b) Materials for recycling are rinsed, cleaned, separated and classified.
- c) Space efficiency is achieved through cutting, baling, and boxing.
- d) A new can “Densifier” has increased the amount of recycled cans per pallet from 450 pounds to 2500 pounds, also reducing trips to the recycling facility.
- e) Our recycling program reduced solid waste going to landfill by 80%.
- f) “Smart lighting System” is in place that includes motion detectors that reduce electricity usage.



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- g) A water conservation program was completed in 2009 which includes the installation of a booster pump to better utilize city water if one of our wells goes down.**
- h) In 2009 the well pumps were retrofitted with electronic controls and soft start systems. This lowered flow demands through constant water supply pressure that allows for a more efficient operation of equipment.**
- i) In 2010 O-AT-KA installed circuit setting temperature controls on process equipment cooling water systems that substantially reduced the amount of cooling water used.**
  - Savings due to these steps amount to 30% on cooling water used.**

**FUTURE PROJECTS**

- 1.) In 2010 a third well will be commissioned which will provide savings by allowing preventative maintenance on the other two wells and “resting”.**
- 2.) In 2010 the cooling towers for our retort system will be retrofitted with frequency drives to control air temperature and flows on demand, versus running manually. In addition, plant compressed air system upgrade will reduce power usage.**
- 3.) In 2010 O-AT-KA has initiated a multi-component analysis of additional alternatives to further reduce electrical usage.**

**LONG TERM GOALS**

- 1.) Achieve 100% landfill free status.**
- 2.) Develop a water conservation plan.**
- 3.) Continue to work with local government, utilities and neighbors as a leader in environmental and social responsibilities.**
- 4.) Encourage all employees to participate in volunteer activities-supporting “green” efforts; i.e. Earth Day.**