

Tap into the benefits of a MnTAP intern

Get solutions for your energy efficiency, waste reduction, or water conservation projects



Interns with the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP) can research conservation opportunities in your facility, perform assessments, and provide concrete recommendations to improve process, material, and energy efficiency. This hands-on assistance can help your company move from recommendation to implementation.

A Fresh Perspective... A Valuable Resource

Business owners and plant managers know there are many ways they can reduce waste and conserve energy that would lead to cost savings. Yet they lack the extra staff time or resources to devote to investigating and solving the problem. MnTAP interns help to fill in this gap. Students are able to work full-time (during the summer) at the facility identifying and researching solutions.

While each MnTAP intern has a specific project to focus on, companies often find that the impact of the intern extends far beyond the actual project. "Our intern brought excellent analytical skills to projects as well as a fresh perspective for new projects. He gained a lot of knowledge about manufacturing and the food industry. It was a win-win situation," says Sandra Mohr, Process Technology Manager at Firmenich in New Ulm. The intern at Firmenich led a project focused on developing techniques to increase efficiency and conserve energy in the spray drying process.

Creative Solutions... Real Results

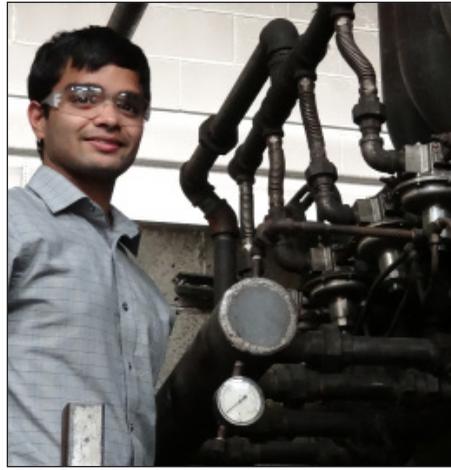
The impact of the intern projects has reached far beyond the walls of the host facilities; many of the solutions identified during the projects have been applied to other companies, which magnifies the impact of the program. From Thief River Falls and International Falls in the north to Albert Lea, Preston, and Jackson in the south, MnTAP intern projects have stretched across Minnesota.

Companies that participated in the MnTAP intern program in 2016 have the potential to realize reductions of over 2.7 million pounds of waste, 3.1 million kWh and 143,000 therms of energy, and could conserve over 65 million gallons of water. These potential reductions can save these companies \$1.8 million annually!

Participating companies have proven to be committed to making changes. Through follow-up over the course of two years, MnTAP encourages and supports intern companies to implement recommendations. Typically, 50% of the recommendations are implemented over time.

"The knowledge and out-of-the box thinking of the intern not only helped us with short-term savings, but showed us ways to look at our processes in a whole new light."

*~ Craig Johnson
Maintenance
Manager II, CSM
Bakery Products*



A History of Success

Since 1985, MnTAP has been coordinating an intern program that places highly qualified students in facilities for up to three months. MnTAP began offering the program as a way to facilitate implementation of pollution prevention solutions.

More than 192 companies have participated in the MnTAP program representing industries such as hospitality, healthcare, manufacturing, food processing, and local and state government.

Solutions and Results

Your business may be able to address waste reduction and energy efficiency projects sooner and faster with the help of a MnTAP intern. An intern can make suggestions that improve efficiency, save money, reduce waste and material usage, or decrease your regulatory compliance burden. MnTAP interns can help you identify solutions for wastes including:

- Water use/reuse
- Energy efficiency in wastewater treatment facilities
- Refrigeration efficiency
- Boiler & fan efficiency
- Air compressor efficiency
- Paint efficiency
- Source reduction & reducing waste
- Food processing & cleaning methods

Apply Today!

MnTAP seeks companies to host intern projects focused on streamlining daily manufacturing operations, identifying energy and water conservation opportunities, and avoiding waste in their processes. Applications are due January 20 each year.

For more information about the intern program or how to participate, contact Paul Pagel, MnTAP's intern program coordinator at ppagel@umn.edu or 612-624-4638 or visit www.mntap.umn.edu/intern.

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