



Jane Pamperin <janep2@umn.edu>

MnTAP FRP Tips Newsletter

1 message

Minnesota Technical Assistance Program <mntap@umn.edu>

Thu, Jun 19, 2014 at 8:00 AM

To: janep2@umn.edu

Trouble viewing this message? [Read this message on the Web.](#)



Improving Energy Efficiency in FRP Operations [t](#) [f](#) [in](#)

MnTAP's E3 in FRP project includes Lean Services

One of the things that differentiates an [E3](#) project from other sustainability programs is the inclusion of economic development in addition to environmental goals. Each company selected to participate in the project will choose one of our partners to provide a [Lean](#) assessment of their operations.

A Lean assessment includes a plant tour to identify opportunities to reduce costs, enhance production flow, eliminate non-value-added time or materials, and reduce inventory.

One tool that may be used during the assessment is [value stream mapping \(VSM\)](#). VSM is a tool used to map the current state of a process to better understand the flow of material and information, and create a plan for a more efficient future state. Some areas for potential improvements include: inventory, inputs, outputs, wastes, non-value-added steps, worker safety issues, energy consumption, bottlenecks, and rework.

Did you know...

You can use the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle strategy to save your company money? Here's how:

REDUCE: The less waste you create, the less waste you have to get rid of! Simple changes can significantly reduce the amount of waste you create at work:

- An FRP tub and shower manufacturer eliminated 29,000 pounds of overspray, and [saved \\$1,400 per year](#) in disposal fees by reducing five pounds of overspray can be reduced per unit.
- The same company purchased in line flow meters to eliminate manual gun calibration. The meters will save \$25,114 in disposal and material costs, eliminate the purchase of 43,180 pounds of the resin formulation and 43,180 pounds of solid waste annually, and reduce 840 hours labor associated with gun calibration.
- Use both sides of a sheet of paper when printing and copying. Organizations can potentially [reduce annual paper costs by 30%](#) by selecting duplex printing as the default option.
- Use reusable dishware in break rooms, at your desk and at meetings.
- Buy supplies in bulk or economy sized packaging.
- Reduce [unnecessary packaging](#), or ship products in [reusable containers](#).

REUSE: The [Minnesota Materials Exchange](#) is a free service that links organizations that have reusable goods they no longer need to those who can use them. A small educational organization donated 50 workstations to a local non-profit group. The non-profit group saved approximately \$10,000 in purchase costs and the donating organization avoided hundreds of dollars in disposal fees.

RECYCLE: Recycling can save you money!

- By reducing the amount of trash you throw away, you may be able to reduce the size of your dumpster and/or the frequency of your trash pick-up. One business in Ramsey County was able to save over \$900/month by keeping reusable/recyclable waste out of their dumpster. They were able to reduce trash pick-up from 5 to 3 days per week, leading to a lower monthly trash bill.
- In addition to savings from your trash hauler, the state of MN has a 17% tax on solid waste and many counties have additional taxes. Anything eliminated from your solid waste dumpster is not subject to these taxes and fees. The savings can really add up!
- Check out [RecycleMoreMinnesota](#) for other recycling hints and tips.

This is the third in a series of newsletters providing helpful tips on how to improve YOUR economic results, energy efficiency, and environmental impact! Stay tuned for the next newsletter which will focus on strategies for saving money through more efficient compressed air systems.

Let us know if you are interested in getting involved in the E3 project, and send us your ideas for future newsletter topics! Contact Jane Pamperin, MnTAP Senior Engineer, at janep2@umn.edu. If you are not the appropriate recipient for this email or if you know of additional people who should receive this communication, please send their email addresses to mntap@umn.edu.

The Minnesota Technical Assistance Program would like to thank the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and the US EPA Office of Pollution Prevention for financial support of this project.

To ensure continued delivery, add mntap@umn.edu to your safe senders list or address book.

This email was sent by [the Minnesota Technical Assistance Program](#) at the [University of Minnesota](#), 200 Oak Street SE, Suite 350, Minneapolis, MN, 55455. Please read the University of Minnesota's [mass email privacy statement](#).

©2014 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved.

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.