# **Energy and Water Conservation at Olympus Surgical Technologies**

**Noah Roe** 

**MnTAP Advisor: Jane Paulson** 

**Company Supervisor: Keith Jacobson** 



University of Minnesota

Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>



# **Company Background**

# **OLYMPUS**

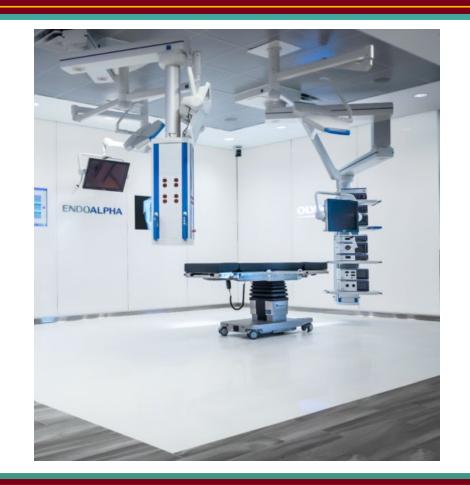
- Olympus Surgical Technologies of America
  - Medical device manufacturer
  - Known for their cameras
  - Located in Brooklyn Park
- Approx. 350 Employees
- •180,000 sq ft
- Headquartered in Japan
  - Manufactures in Europe,Asia, North America





## **Incentives to Change**

- Carbon neutrality by 2030
  - •EIS (Energy Information Systems) team founded in 2017
- •ISO 14001 Certification
  - Environmental Management Systems
  - •Olympus Global wishes to adopt more energy efficiency technologies
- Intern Project Goals
  - Water conservation
  - Energy efficiency





#### **Energy Efficiency: Warehouse HVAC**

- Product sterilized with EtO (Ethlyene Oxide) offsite
- Delivered to warehouse for storage
- Ventilation system runs to ensure EtO levels follow OSHA guidelines
- Large energy savings opportunity



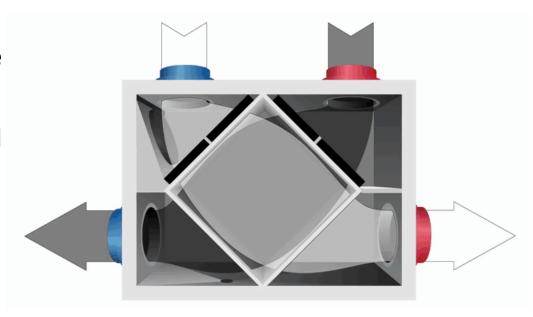






#### **Energy Efficiency: New ERV Systems**

- Installing Energy Recovery
   Ventilators in the warehouse
- Air-to-Air heat exchanger
- Captures already warm/cold air and pass it by a heat exchange plate
- •\$30,000 savings
- •280,000 kWh/yr



Platinum Air Core Technologies, 2023



# **Compressed Air System**

- Repaired 54 air leaks
  - •Set up trainings and annual audit work orders for leaks
  - •\$22,000 in savings
  - •200,000 kWh/yr
- •Created a plan to lower system pressure (135 psi to 105 psi)
  - System is running at a high pressure for only one machine
  - •\$7,000 in savings
  - •64,000 kWh/yr







## **Irrigation Optimization**

- Installed a new rain sensor
  - Deactivates system when it's raining outside
- •Reduced run times by 33%
  - •Cycles reduced from 30 mins to 20 mins
  - •34 Zones affected
- •980,000 gallons saved
- Weekly grounds check to prevent water waste from leaks (as pictured)





#### **Solutions**

Recommendation	Annual reduction	Total cost	Annual savings	Payback period	Status
Install Warehouse ERVs	280,000 kWh	\$140,000	\$30,000	4.8 years	Planned
Repair Air Leaks	200,000 kWh	\$200	\$22,000	Instant	Implemented
Reduce Air Pressure	64,000 kWh	\$300	\$7,000	Instant	Planned
Shut off Equipment	36,000 kWh	\$0	\$4,000	Instant	Partially Implemented
Water Softener Optimization	22,000 lbs. Salt 5,000 gallons	\$10,000	\$4,000	2.5 years	Planned
Optimize Irrigation	980,000 gallons	\$100	\$4,400	Instant	Implemented
Reroute RO Water	240,000 gallons	\$25,000	\$12,000	2 years	Investigating



#### **Personal Benefits**

- Project Management
  - Hands on experience
- Networking opportunities
- •Experience communicating and coordinating with technicians and engineers
- Generated innovative ideas and put them into practice



