

2008 Update: Highlights from climate savers companies

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WWF Climate Savers companies continue to lead by example. Throughout diverse global business sectors, they are implementing innovative strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the climate impacts of their enterprises. These achievements, coupled with global reputations of its membership, make WWF Climate Savers among the leading groups finding practical pathways to a less carbon intensive global economy. Many of these companies are well ahead of the targets that they originally established and several have gone on to define more ambitious goals for reducing their climate impact. Some WWF Climate Savers companies have recognized the importance of engaging their suppliers and customers in these efforts and have expanded the scope of their emissions reductions activities beyond their direct impacts.

With global leaders in the food and beverage and information technology sectors joining in 2008, Climate Savers will continue to provide a forum for some of the world's most innovative and committed companies to share best practices in climate protection.

Catalyst maintains impressive achievement on ambitious goal

Catalyst Paper set one of the most ambitious emissions reduction goals of any large corporation worldwide - a 70% reduction in its GHG emissions by 2010 relative to 1990 levels. Catalyst achieved this goal ahead of schedule in both 2005 and 2006, while also registering significant reductions on an intensity basis. In 2007, the reduction level fell back slightly to 69%, due largely to a constrained supply of carbon-neutral biomass fuels. However, the company will strive to return to its 70% reduction level in 2008 and beyond. Catalyst has developed an elegant strategy to minimize its GHG emissions. It relies on wastes generated elsewhere within the industry (primarily sawmill leftovers such as bark and wood chips) to generate heat and electricity. In 2007, these and other renewable sources accounted for 87% of its total energy needs. This included expanded use of methane captured from a nearby municipal landfill at Catalyst's Paper Recycling Division.

Collins cogenerates its way to emissions cuts

The Collins Companies, a large privately-owned US timber company, also joined WWF Climate Savers early setting a goal of a 15% reduction in emissions below 1999 levels by 2009. The Collins Companies 2006 emissions were 10.2% below 1999 levels. The company remains a leader in cogeneration of steam and electricity from forest thinnings, and is recognized for its green building materials.

IBM Establishes Second Generation CO2 Emissions Reduction Objective

As one of the original Climate Savers companies, IBM committed to reduce or avoid GHG emissions associated with operational energy use by 4% each year from 1998 through 2004 through the implementation of energy conservation projects and the purchase of renewable energy. IBM exceeded this goal and achieved an average of 5.7% CO2 emissions avoidance from 1998 to 2004. In 2006, IBM set a new goal to reduce CO2 emissions to 12% below 2005 levels. In the first year of this commitment programme, IBM reduced emissions 2.8%, through a program of energy conservation and renewable energy purchases.

Server Consolidation Facilitates Improved efficiency

As a leading IT equipment producer and services provider, IBM provides solutions enabling its clients to increase their energy efficiency and avoid CO2 emissions. As the world's largest data centre operator, IBM has been through several generations of consolidations in its own data centres enabled by its technologies. The latest project, announced in 2007, will consolidate about 3900 distributed servers onto around 30 new generation mainframes, using 80% less energy and space in the process. These same efficiency opportunities are available to IBM clients, and there are many examples of client driven, IBM enabled consolidation-based energy saving projects. IBM also offers energy efficiency assessments of data centre operations. Experience has shown these assessments can identify energy cost reductions of between 10 and 40 %.

Climate a health issue, says Johnson & Johnson

Declaring that “the environment is the ultimate human health issue”, health care products giant Johnson & Johnson has similarly managed to combine significant emissions reductions with healthy business growth. Johnson & Johnson joined WWF Climate Savers in 2000 with an undertaking to reduce emissions to 7% below 1990 levels by 2010. By 2006, the company had reduced its emissions to 16.8% below 1990 levels, despite more than tripling revenue over the same period.

Healthy returns from climate investments

Although Johnson & Johnson went into some of their early renewable energy investments despite relatively low returns on investment, they now report their GHG and energy use reductions “make good business sense for the company”. “The energy efficiency program has resulted in an estimated \$30 million annualized savings over the last 10 years and our GHG reduction projects are achieving an average 16% internal rate of return,” the company reports.

Lafarge helps the world build lighter, stronger and cleaner

Lafarge continues to successfully develop less carbon intensive building materials, a key benefit of a policy to “increasingly take sustainable development criteria into consideration when deciding on R&D programs for new product development”. Bridge beams made of new cement composite Ductal for instance have one quarter of the materials, just over a third of the weight and involve just half the carbon emissions of the manufacture of traditional reinforced concrete beams. Agilia is a self-compacting concrete which does away with the need for vibrating and finishing.

In 2006, Lafarge emissions in industrialized countries were around 3.6 million metric tonnes less than 1990 emissions, which is a 7% decrease. Globally, Lafarge reduced the emissions intensity of its cement by 14.2% between 1990 and 2006, and is on track to achieve its WWF Climate Saver undertakings of a 20% reduction of its worldwide specific emissions (CO₂ per ton of cement) and of a 10% absolute reduction in industrialized countries by 2010. Lafarge is operating in one of the most energy and emissions intense industrial sectors where incremental efficiency gains can result in impressive emissions reductions.

Nike's run on reducing emissions continues

Between 1998 and 2006, Nike revenue increased 57%, while emissions declined by 20%. Nike had promised to reduce emissions by 13% by 2005. Now it plans to be carbon neutral in Nike-owned facilities and business travel by 2011.

When climate change first became an issue, Nike was faced with the problem that many of its emissions derived from gases with much greater greenhouse impact than CO₂. Completely eliminating SF₆ played a large part in the 80% reduction in GHGs that Nike has engineered since the peak year of use in 1997. A milestone in this process was reached in 2006 when the less potent GHG perfluoropropane (PHP) which replaced SF₆ as a shoe cushioning medium was itself phased out in favour of climate neutral nitrogen.

Novo Nordisk reports potential for energy savings.

Novo Nordisk has completed a thorough evaluation of opportunities for improving energy efficiency and reducing emissions throughout its worldwide operations. This evaluation allowed Novo Nordisk to develop a detailed strategy for achieving its target of a 10% reduction on 2004 emissions by 2014. The global pharmaceutical company will focus on improving energy efficiency at its production sites and is also developing renewable energy options throughout its global operations. “There are large potentials for energy savings at all production sites, in spite of the fact that Novo Nordisk has been focusing on energy savings for the last 10 years,” the company reported in May.

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Following the report, Novo Nordisk entered into a pioneering agreement with DONG Energy, Denmark's largest energy company: DONG Energy assists Novo Nordisk in identifying energy-saving options and in return Novo Nordisk will purchase corresponding quantities of energy from a new offshore wind farm off the west coast of Denmark. With this agreement Novo Nordisk has devised a cost-neutral way to significantly achieve reductions in CO2 emissions and at the same time help build the market for renewable energy in Denmark. This is what makes the agreement unique: it is commercially viable, and that makes it a solution that both parties would like to see other companies adopt. From 2014, Novo Nordisk is expected to purchase about a third of the total energy produced by the wind farm. The aim is that, by then, electricity supplies for Novo Nordisk's facilities in Denmark, which currently account for 85% of the company's total CO2 emissions, will be entirely based on power from this wind farm. The partnership will run till 2020.

Sagawa Express starts using "bio-natural gas"

Vehicle fuel switching and driver education in efficient driving have played a large role in the emissions reduction strategy of Japanese-based delivery and logistics company Sagawa Express. Natural gas (a less carbon intensive fuel than gasoline or diesel) use has expanded more than four-fold since 2002, with only modest increases in gasoline and a significant decline in diesel consumption.

In 2007, Sagawa started trial use of "bio-natural gas" produced through methane fermentation of livestock waste, raw garbage, sewage sludge, wood waste and other organic waste (biomass) from animals. If the trial is successful, Sagawa will consider increasing the number of vehicles using this more climate friendly fuel. Sagawa has currently recorded a 2.8% reduction in emissions despite strong growth, well on its way to achieving its targeted emissions reduction of 6% by 2012.

Sony reaches target early

Global electronics and entertainment giant Sony Corporation, managed to exceed its 2010 goal in 2006, the latest analysis of its emissions has revealed. In the Climate Savers agreement reached in 2006, the company had promised to reduce GHG emissions by 9% from 2000 levels by 2010. The analysis shows that Sony's energy efficiency, fuel switching initiatives and activities to reduce emissions from other greenhouse gases have begun to pay off with savings of more than 155,000 tonnes of CO2e. Total emissions for 2006 were 9% less than their levels in 2000. This is particularly impressive given Sony Corporation sales growth of 13% over the period.

Push for renewables gathers pace

Sony's move to renewable energy is playing its part in reducing emissions. In late 2007, two Austrian sites joined seven others in Europe now powered entirely by renewable

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energy. In Europe, 41% of Sony's total energy consumption now comes from renewables. In Japan, Sony remains the largest buyer of renewable energy under the green power certification system it helped establish with two 2007 contracts being for 10 million kilowatt hours of geothermal power and 16 million kWh of biomass power.

Tetra Pak saves energy and converts plants to green power

Tetra Pak made exceptional progress toward its goal of reducing GHG emissions 10% by 2010 against a 2005 base year. In its first year emissions fell 4% at the same time packaging material production grew 5%. The company reports that "Energy use in 2006 is now at a lower level than in 2002, despite a production growth of packages produced by 23%." Per production unit, there has been a 6.6% improvement in energy efficiency in 2006.

Modena plant reconstruction builds in efficiency, renewables improvements

Tetra-Pak took advantage of rebuilding at its Modena, Italy plant to reduce building energy requirements and install advanced wastewater recycling, solar water heating and solar electricity generation. Seven Tetra Pak plants are at or on their way to a goal of 100% green power.

Xanterra bringing renewables to US national parks

Xanterra Parks & Resorts is protecting the natural heritage on which its business depends by optimizing the energy efficiency of its buildings and expanding its use of renewable energy. Xanterra's efforts are already realizing significant energy savings and emissions reductions. Its 2006 GHG emissions were 17 % less than 2000 levels – well beyond its Climate Savers goal of 10 % cut by 2015. This early success prompted Xanterra to establish a more ambitious internal goal of a 30% reduction in GHG emissions by 2015.

A key component of its strategy was to increase the use of renewable energy to 7% of its total consumption. Excluding hydroelectric power, Xanterra now powers 11.5% of its overall operations and 18.5% of its National Park operations with renewable energy. Renewable energy use increased by more than a quarter in 2006-2007, with an increased contribution from a new on-site 1-MW photovoltaic electricity in the US Death Valley and Rocky Mountain National Parks.