

Wind power boosts sustainability at SC Johnson's largest manufacturing facility



New turbines help household product manufacturer get 30% of its global energy use from renewable sources

Two new wind turbines at SC Johnson's Waxdale manufacturing facility in Racine, Wisconsin will produce enough electricity to power 700 homes for a year, representing a significant reduction in the facility's use of fossil fuels. Installed in December 2012, the turbines supplement two cogeneration systems to provide 100% of the facility's power onsite, cutting Waxdale's carbon emissions by 6,000 metric tons annually.

The cogeneration systems, in place since the mid-2000s, use waste methane gas from a nearby landfill along with clean-burning natural gas to provide 85% of the facility's energy. The addition of the turbines, which tower 415 feet into the air and bear blades measuring 135 feet across, provides the other 15%. Waxdale is an enormous facility at 2.2 million square feet, the equivalent of about 36 football fields.

The new wind turbines are just another sustainable feature at Waxdale. Increased lighting efficiency has saved about 1.3 million kilowatts per year and \$180,000, and the facility recycles or reuses 75% of its solid waste stream. Other efforts, like a no-idling policy and biodiesel use in some of its vehicles, have helped SC Johnson cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 26% since the year 2000.

Waxdale may be the largest, but it's not the only SC Johnson facility boasting sustainability initiatives that help the company fulfill its commitment to the environment. Nearly 30% of SC Johnson's global energy use comes from renewable sources. Its European manufacturing facility in the Netherlands has its own 262-foot-tall turbine, and SWIFT mini turbines help power the company's sales office in Lowell, Arkansas. A Bay City, Michigan plant meets nearly half of its electricity needs with offsite wind power, while solar projects help provide hot water heating for the company's facility in Shanghai.

At a plant in Medan, Indonesia, a novel program gives value to waste palm shells by turning them into a biofuel, reducing local diesel fuel use by 80 percent. A similar

program in Surabaya, Indonesia uses waste husks from rice grains to power a boiler that heats water for the production of SC Johnson's mosquito coils.

The company also aims to become landfill neutral by 2016 by eliminating or diverting over 480 pounds of waste from landfills, equivalent to more than its total waste footprint in the United States. Another major environmental improvement is the Truckload Utilization Project, which optimally configures the loads carried by its trucks to make shipments more efficient. The program eliminated 1,882 tons of greenhouse gas emissions and cut 168,000 gallons of fuel use in just twelve months.

Together, all these efforts enable SC Johnson to use fewer resources and reduce waste.