

Performance Track Final Progress Report

About Performance Track

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Environmental Performance Track program (Performance Track) was a public-private partnership that encouraged continuous environmental improvement through environmental management systems, community outreach, and measurable results. Performance Track was a voluntary approach to recognize and drive environmental excellence among private and public facilities by encouraging facilities with strong environmental records to go above and beyond their legal requirements. In partnership with EPA, members voluntarily set measurable goals to improve the quality of our nation's air, water, and land. Members included facilities of major corporations, small businesses, and public entities.

In March 2009, EPA decided to halt the Performance Track program. The program was in existence for almost nine years. This report summarizes highlights of the program including program growth, changes, and environmental results.

For more information on Performance Track and its members, please visit www.epa.gov/performance-track.

In 2008, despite the economic downturn across the country, Performance Track continued to grow. The program welcomed 84 new members in 2008, increasing the membership base to 547. Performance Track's renewal rate also remained very high at 85 percent. These sustained trends demonstrated

a commitment to improving environmental performance even when budgets are tight.

Over the life of the program, the combined environmental effort of all Performance Track member facilities has resulted in cumulative reported reductions of many environmental indicators, including reductions in water use by 2.87 billion gallons, greenhouse gas emission reductions of 366,948 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, and conservation of 24,864 acres of habitat. Many of the members' achievements address issues that are not covered by current regulations.

Continuous improvement was a core value of Performance Track for both members and the program itself. Over the life of the program many changes to membership criteria and program implementation were made. In 2008, EPA received feedback from stakeholders indicating that additional structure and transparency in the process by which members select goals could increase program integrity and maximize environmental improvements at member facilities. As a result, the program developed new goal selection criteria and designated several key areas as core environmental indicators.

The introduction of challenge goals at the national and regional levels served as another way to maximize environmental improvements by focusing members' goal selection on national and regional priorities. Working with the Office of Water, Performance Track established a new challenge goal for protecting impaired waters from further degradation. Performance Track also collaborated with other EPA program offices to launch challenge goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and priority chemicals, and worked with a group of non-governmental organizations to create a challenge goal for enhancing and restoring habitat.

The Performance Track program coordinated closely with states as they developed and implemented complementary performance-based programs. New partnerships with Arizona and West Virginia were confirmed in 2008 through the signing of Memoranda of Agreement (MOA). In total, 14 states had signed MOA with EPA and more than 20 state-level performance-based programs are in operation across the country.

During its final year, Performance Track designated Xerox Corporation as a Corporate Leader based on the company's longstanding commitment to corporate environmental leadership. Other Corporate Leaders included Baxter Healthcare Corporation, Xanterra Parks and Resorts, Johnson & Johnson, and Rockwell Collins. EPA created the Performance Track Corporate Leader designation in 2004 as a way to recognize companies that exhibit environmental stewardship at the corporate level.

Performance Track Corporate Leaders offered the program's nearly 550 members a steady flow of ideas for improving performance and future goal selection based on their own leading practices. Along with the recognition that the program offered its members, this cross-pollination of ideas for best practices and innovation in environmental performance was central to the program membership.

EPA plans to advance the Agency's understanding of environmental leadership programs and inform its future efforts to recognize and drive environmental excellence through the creation of a subcommittee under the National Advisory Committee on Environment and Technology in 2009 and a study by the RAND Corporation to be completed in 2009.

Performance Track

a holistic approach to environmental improvement

Rather than focusing on just one specific pollutant or environmental issue, Performance Track worked with members to improve performance among a variety of environmental indicators, throughout the product lifecycle. The figure at right displays the indicators around which members set ambitious “stretch” goals, challenging them to innovate and develop new practices. Members’ cumulative results are displayed next to each indicator.

The results highlighted here cover the period 2000-2007 (the last year for which data were reported) for members that completed at least one three-year term in the program. Detailed results for all indicators, calculation methodology, and results caveats are available at www.epa.gov/performance-track/results.

UPSTREAM



Material Procurement

Hazardous/Toxic Components	-192 tons ✓
Recycled Content	-572 tons ✓



Suppliers’ Environmental Performance

-2,674 tons ✓

INPUTS



Material Use

Materials Used	-48,888 tons ✓
Hazardous Materials Used	+56,543 tons
Packaging Materials Used	+390 tons
Use of Reused-Recycled Materials	-301,808 tons ✓



Water Use

Total Water Used -2,871,860,883 gallons ✓



Energy Use

Non-Transportation Energy Use	-6,701,303 MMBtu ✓
Transportation Energy Use	+29,009 gallons



Land and Habitat

Land and Habitat Conservation +24,864 acres ✓



CUMULATIVE IMPROVEMENTS
in perspective



Energy savings to power **73,000 homes** for one year



Greenhouse gas reductions to offset the emissions of **67,000 cars** for one year



Solid waste reductions equivalent to the amount produced by **576,000 households** for one year

Performance Track Members' Results 2000-2007

NONPRODUCT OUTPUTS



Air Emissions

Greenhouse Gases	-366,948 metric tons of CO ₂ equivalent ✓
VOCs	-4,884 tons ✓
Air Toxics	-925 tons ✓
Carbon Monoxide	-4 tons ✓
NOx	-15,656 tons ✓
PM-10	+50 tons
SOx	-43,083 tons ✓
Radiation	-814 curies ✓



Waste

Non-Hazardous Waste Generation	-1,261,006 tons ✓
Hazardous Waste Generation	-68,146 tons ✓



Discharges to Water

Discharges of BOD, COD, TSS, Nutrients, Sediments	-35,581 tons ✓
Discharges of Toxics	-3,361 tons ✓



Noise

	-52 dBA ✓
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DOWNSTREAM



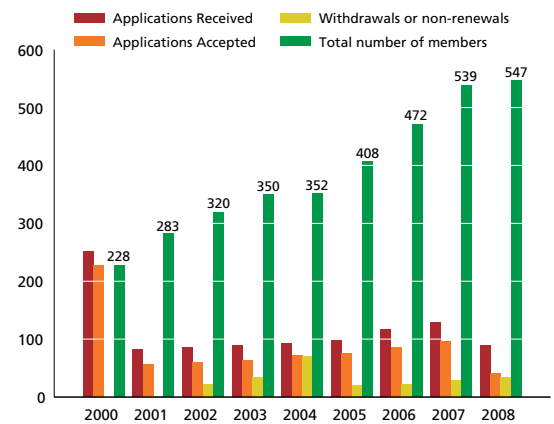
Products

Expected Lifetime Waste from Product Use	-100 tons ✓
Waste to Air, Water, Land from Disposal or Recovery	NA

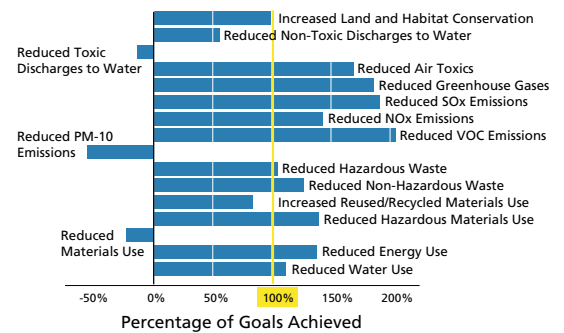
Key

- + Cumulative increase from baseline
- Cumulative decrease from baseline
- ✓ Improvement in performance
- NA No data were reported on this indicator by Performance Track members.

By the end of 2008, Performance Track had 547 members.



From 2000-2007, Performance Track members collectively made progress toward or exceeded nearly all of their goals.



Performance Track and Water

Many Performance Track members' achievements addressed issues that are vital to the health of our planet but not covered by current regulations. The use of water is one of these issues, and represents an area in which Performance Track members made significant improvements.

The use, reuse, and recycling of water have become critical areas of improvement for facilities across the United States. Not only must water be sourced carefully, it requires immense quantities of energy to treat and transport. To effectively manage this critical resource, Performance Track members implemented a variety of practices in water conservation, treatment, and reuse, through improvements made in the Water Use and Discharges to Water goal categories. Many members will continue these efforts even though the program has been halted.

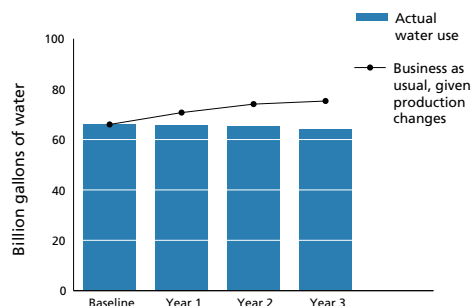
Selected Achievements by Performance Track Members

Total Water Use

- At its Ocotillo, Arizona, manufacturing and development facility, Intel has had an extensive water conservation and recycling program since the facility broke ground in the mid-1990s. Careful planning and collaboration with the City of Chandler gave Intel room to expand while ensuring that the area's water resources would be managed sustainably. Working with the city, Intel recharged approximately 1 billion gallons of municipal water back into the aquifer between 2002 and 2004. The facility also reuses treated water from the site and treated water from a nearby public-owned treatment plant for lawn and ground irrigation. Intel continues its efforts to reduce water use.
- DuPont Mt. Clemens in Mt. Clemens, Michigan, reduced its water use by nearly 3.5 million gallons from 2006 to 2007 through process improvements, improved treatment, and conservation measures. The facility also treated and reused water onsite in cooling towers. DuPont Mt. Clemens continues its efforts to reduce water use.
- Novozymes in Franklinton, North Carolina, reduced its water use by 35 percent between 2003 and 2006, on a

normalized basis, through the installation of improved water seal control systems on large vacuum pumps, improved water recycling systems for membrane filters, increased conservation by operators, and using alternative sanitizer that requires less water. Novozymes continues its efforts to reduce water use.

Together, 179 Performance Track members reduced their water use by 2.87 billion gallons.



Results cover the years 2000-2007 and include only members that set a goal for this indicator and completed at least one three-year membership term.

Discharge to Water

- Arizona Chemical in Savannah, Georgia, aimed to reduce discharges of biological oxygen demand (BOD) by 30 percent between 2002 and 2006 through installation of pre-screening equipment that will improve the recovery of oil from brine, significantly reducing losses of high-BOD material to the wastewater system. Arizona Chemical continues its efforts to reduce its BOD discharges and was also exploring a market for spent brine, which is now used by paper mills to recover saltcake.

Challenge Goals

Performance Track partnered with EPA's Office of Water to offer national challenge goals in water use reduction and reduction in discharges to impaired waters. Several EPA Regions also established challenge goals to reduce specific discharges to water:

- Region 2 challenged facilities to address nutrient discharges (phosphorous and nitrogen) and non-point sediment runoff into watersheds.
- In Region 3, facilities were challenged to reduce sediments from runoff, a specific set of toxic discharges, or a specific set of nutrients.

Alternate Goals

Members have also set alternate goals to protect watershed health. Examples of this work could include the following:

- Supporting collection and reporting of ambient water quality data.
- Decreasing impermeable pavement, installing "green" roofs, increasing bioretention, increasing on-lot treatment, using stormwater as a resource (e.g., for cooling water, irrigation water), and minimizing exposure of industrial chemicals or activities to the elements.

Kodak Colorado Division of Windsor, Colorado, set an alternate goal to monitor and analyze ambient water quality in the Cache La Poudre River. Little information exists about the ambient water quality for many U.S. waterbodies. Access to water quality data can enhance the understanding of the health of a river and inform decision-making about how to best protect it.

Kodak Colorado Division and other dischargers to segments of the Cache La Poudre River formed an ambient water quality monitoring group in cooperation with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. In 2007, the group developed the monitoring plan and signed an official agreement to provide ambient water quality monitoring. This group will provide coordinated and accurate data about the water quality along 45 river miles year round, which will be available to members of the monitoring group, regulators, and the public.

EPA 100-R-09-003
U.S. EPA, Office of Policy, Economics,
and Innovation (MC 1807-T)
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