



Case Study: Metro Lighting Berkeley, California

Being green is nothing new to Metro Lighting – it has been integral to their business philosophy from the beginning.

They've delivered beautiful, eco-friendly artisan lighting to over 12,000 customers and businesses since 1993 and first achieved Green Business Certification in 2008.

One of the most impressive and impactful sustainability measures at Metro Lighting is their 21kW rooftop solar array, which produces 100% of their electrical needs. They believe they are the first and only fully solar-powered lighting company on the planet! Nearly 600 energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and LEDs light the display fixtures in the showroom.

“As long as everyone is on a path towards sustainability, we will collectively move our society forward with purpose.”

-Lawrence Grown, Founder and Lead Designer

Other sustainability practices at Metro Lighting include:

- Maintaining a local supply chain and supporting local business through their establishment of the West Berkeley Design Loop, an alliance of locally-owned home improvement retailers
- Providing secure bike storage for staff
- Having low-flow toilets and faucets

In addition to their Green Business practices, Metro Lighting is most proud of the products they manufacture. These include recycled cast glass lighting shades, recycled bicycle rim lights and pendants with re-purposed telephone pole insulators and traffic signal lenses. They take pride in keeping their supply chain as local as possible. Most of their lamp parts are purchased from Los Angeles, with some custom parts made in Berkeley. Their glass artists are almost all in Northern California.

Metro Lighting has won numerous awards, including being one of the 2015 CoolCalifornia Climate Leaders and the 2011 Acterra Award for Sustainable Built Environment.



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THE RESULTS

In the past year, Metro Lighting has saved:

- 107,288 kWh of energy,
- 4,665 gallons of water,
- 92,922 lbs of CO₂
- 4,006 lbs of waste diverted from landfills



Learn more about the Bay Area Green Business Program at www.greenbusinessca.org
Contact Alameda County Coordinator Pamela Evans at pamela.evans@acgov.org