



Bayer HealthCare LLC

At Bayer HealthCare's 45-acre biotechnology facility in Berkeley, California, over 1,300 employees work to develop and produce treatments that extend and enhance the lives of patients who suffer from life-threatening diseases. Bayer Berkeley is certified under the ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems Standard.

Facts-at-a-Glance

Challenges

- High disposal costs
- Need for accurate waste generation data tracking system
- Facility expansion

Solutions

- Visual waste audit
- Waste reduction recommendations
- Development of a waste generation data tracking system
- Employee education
- Improved signage to increase recycling

Benefits

- Reduction of over \$500,000 on garbage bill
- Diverted more than 70% of waste as recycled materials

The Story

A strong commitment to the environment motivated Bayer HealthCare's Biological Products Division to join the StopWaste Partnership. A waste audit revealed a number of waste reduction opportunities. Bayer's efforts contributed to the company receiving ISO 14001 certification, a comprehensive international standard for environmental performance. Bayer's company-wide environmental policy statement reads, "Bayer recognizes environmental management among its highest priorities and will establish programs and practices for conducting operations in an environmentally sound manner."

Challenges

Bayer sought to strengthen its recycling program and environmental management system. The company wanted to maximize waste reduction, but didn't have a clear picture of what recyclable materials were still in its waste stream. At the same time, Bayer was planning to expand its facility, but first had to demolish a building with minimal environmental impact. And to monitor and help fine-tune its programs, Bayer needed to develop a system that could accurately track environmental performance data.

"StopWaste was instrumental in helping us use fresh eyes to see new opportunities to reduce waste! The day-to-day rigor of compliance management can take your eyes away from some of the less obvious success opportunities"

JIM BREITLOW
Environmental Manager
Bayer HealthCare





Solutions

Bayer enhanced its recycling program and environmental data tracking system, recycled concrete and steel from a building demolition, and improved employee awareness of its programs.

“Bayer HealthCare really invests in environmental leadership, and appreciates the expert assistance of StopWaste.”

JIM BREITLOW
Environmental Manager
Bayer HealthCare

“The degree of environmental success we achieve is directly related to the kind of footprint we leave on Earth.”

BOB EDSON
Manager, Health, Environment, Safety & Security



The StopWaste Partnership

StopWaste is a free technical assistance service dedicated to improving the environmental performance and reducing costs of Alameda County businesses and public agencies. The program provides expert support and funding to prevent waste, conserve water and energy, and use all resources more efficiently.

Recycling Program

StopWaste conducted an audit of Bayer's waste stream to determine which materials should be targeted first for recycling. With this information, Bayer has raised its waste diversion rate each year—now to over 70 percent of its solid waste from the landfill—saving over \$500,000 in avoided garbage disposal charges. Today, Bayer's comprehensive recycling program collects cardboard, mixed paper, office paper, scrap wood, glass bottle packaging, aluminum, plastic, non-ferrous metal and iron.

Demolition Recycling

When Bayer was constructing a new bottling and filling facility at its Berkeley site, the expansion first required that the existing building be removed. In line with Bayer's environmental policy, the building was dismantled and recycled rather than being discarded in a landfill. A mobile crushing unit broke down over 50,000 tons of concrete—half of the concrete was then used as road base on-site and the rest was recycled for other construction projects. Over 2,400 tons of steel rebar was recycled; enough steel to construct more than 300 steel-framed homes.

Data-Tracking System

Bayer can now precisely track its environmental performance data, including generation rates of solid waste, hazardous waste, medical waste, and recycling. All environmental performance data is normalized per production unit and is used to fine-tune programs.

Employee Education

An electronic daily newspaper provides tips on how to participate in company environmental programs and posts environmental performance information. Bayer's annual employee-training and new-hire training programs stress the importance of waste reduction and recycling as a matter of company policy, and provides information about recycling specifically relevant to the Bayer Berkeley site.

The bottom line:

- Savings of over \$500,000 on garbage bill
- Recycling program that diverts over 70% of waste from landfill
- Accurate data tracking system

Visit www.stopwaste.org/partnership or call 1-877-STOPWASTE.