



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Woodgrain Millwork
Fruitland
2005

Environmental Commitment

Woodgrain Millwork manufactures wood products such as doors and moldings. Its environmental policy reads:

Responsibly manage and thoroughly evaluate Woodgrain Millwork's environmental influences and their consequences. This includes being watchful of our example and stewardship as a leading corporation in a natural resource dependent industry.

Pollution Prevention Successes

Hazardous Waste and Air Emissions Reduction

Woodgrain worked with their paint suppliers to reformulate the ingredients of the paint purchased in order to reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) and hazardous air pollutant (HAP) emissions. As a result, the company reduced the generation of HAP emissions by approximately 346,000 pounds and VOC emissions by approximately 600,000 pounds annually. In addition, the company complied with a new federal air regulation 3½ years earlier than required.

Woodgrain uses two solvent distillation units to recycle dirty solvent into clean, reusable solvent. As a result, they reduced the amount of new solvent they need to purchase by approximately 6,300 gallons a year, saving \$8,000 and avoiding \$9,500 in hazardous waste disposal fees.

Water Re-Use and Quality Protection

Woodgrain replaced an evaporation pond with a flocculation system for its waterborne paint process. This system separates solids from liquids, creating a clear effluent that meets discharge requirements of the city treatment system and is suitable for reuse as wash water.

Computer Technology

Woodgrain has developed a computer-based Environmental Management System that links purchase and use of raw materials to the emissions they may generate. This allows

Woodgrain staff to monitor their emissions and identify new pollution prevention opportunities. Woodgrain also has developed a shipping program that organizes finished product deliveries and routes to maximize the efficiency of the delivery, thus reducing vehicle miles traveled.

Reuse and Recycling

Woodgrain uses a computerized wood optimizing system that optically evaluates each piece of wood and determines how it should be cut in order to maximize the yield. Any wood chips or dust created are repacked and sold for use as animal bedding and as base material for wood/plastic composite decking material.

Woodgrain converted many of its particulate emissions removal units (cyclones) to a more efficient closed loop process that allows pollutants multiple opportunities to be removed from the air stream. This system, combined with new fabric filtration units (baghouses), reduces particulate emissions, primarily sawdust. Through these efforts, Woodgrain uses over 99% of the wood that it purchases. Woodgrain and its employees recycle paper, cardboard, batteries, fluorescent lights, steel, and aluminum.

Sustainability

Woodgrain uses primarily plantation-grown wood. Using plantation-grown wood assures that the lumber Woodgrain utilizes is from a rapidly renewable source which assures sustainability and promotes good forest stewardship.

More Information

Contact Corporate Environmental Manager, at (208) 452-8264.

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