



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Pollution Prevention Champion

Esterline/Advanced Input Systems
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

2015

Environmental Commitment

Esterline/Advanced Input Systems is a contract manufacturer of electronics and electronic components for a large and diverse array of global companies. Quality control is of utmost importance in electronics manufacturing, and Esterline has worked to perfect all of its processes to ensure the best product possible. As part of the company's culture to focus on continuous improvement, Esterline has refined production processes to significantly reduce hazardous waste and energy use at its Coeur d'Alene fabrication facility.

Pollution Prevention Success

A company culture that focusses on continuous improvement is a principal factor underpinning the reduction in pollution and energy use at Esterline. By looking for any and all potential ways to reduce waste, the company has significantly reduced hazardous waste generated through its manufacturing processes.

Reducing Hazardous Waste and Energy Use

As an electronics manufacturer, Esterline/Advanced Input Systems produces large volumes of printed circuit boards. For some of these boards, customer specifications require the use of lead in soldering applications so as to meet certain performance standards. Seeing an opportunity to segregate the lead solder waste from other metal solder, Esterline organized an isolation system whereby they could capture lead solder waste and send it off for recycling rather than disposal as hazardous waste. This effort has allowed the company to reduce the amount of hazardous lead solder waste generated per year from 278 pounds to just 3 pounds, a 99% reduction.

Increasing Recycling, Decreasing Energy Use

Esterline has also worked diligently to reduce waste from other operations. A large and coordinated recycling program allows for materials including cardboard, paper, metal, circuit boards, and nonhazardous solder paste to be recycled and reused. Additionally, Esterline has implemented numerous energy efficiency efforts such as improved lighting and variable drive air compressors. Esterline's belief in the value of environmental stewardship is a key component of their brand and is evident in the positive results they have achieved.

For More Information

To learn more about the Esterline/Advanced Input Systems, visit the company's website at www.esterline.com/advancedinput/Overview.

Information on this fact sheet represents an example of pollution prevention projects undertaken by Idaho organizations and does not constitute Departmental certification or approval of compliance at this or any other time with federal, state and/or local regulations.