

Maximizing Efficiency: Chobani's Success Story with Ever.Ag's Energy Manager

Chobani

COMPANY OVERVIEW

Chobani is one of the largest yogurt manufacturers in the U.S., having the largest yogurt manufacturing facility in the world located at their Idaho facility. Chobani installed the Energy Manager platform at all their U.S. and Australian locations. The Idaho facility is a state-of-the-art processing site that also provides distribution across the U.S. for dairy and non-dairy-based products produced there.

CHALLENGES

Chobani required a sustainability solution that would enable them to identify, monitor and target the largest energy consumers at their facilities. They looked to engage in energy reduction projects to reduce their overall consumption and carbon emissions. This solution needed to be scalable and available to deploy across the organization. Due to the size of the sites and the quantity of equipment within the facility to be monitored, the cost of a traditional metered energy monitoring system was deemed unfeasible after a design study. The management team needed an alternative to the traditional energy management approach and process performance review and so turned to Ever.Ag for support with its patented virtual metering sustainability software platform, Energy Manager.

Chobani had a corporate requirement to achieve the following:

- Identify significant energy users and energy flow at the facilities.
- Track equipment performance, batch processing and energy usage.
- Continuously monitor, review and track energy and savings opportunities.
- Integration of energy and performance data to SAP.

SOLUTION

To achieve their goals, Chobani partnered with Ever.Ag to utilize a sustainability solution. The tool provides the necessary information and analytical tools to enable them to implement their energy reduction and plant performance program quickly and efficiently. The Energy Manager platform was deployed and integrated with their Historian to collect data from disparate data sources such as the Process Control System, BMS, and standalone OEM units..

With the unique Energy Manager technology, Chobani could:

- Compile complete energy maps for all wages from a building level to the process equipment
- Modal the production process, map equipment performance characteristics and build cycle time reports with batch energy data.
- Backfill energy data from existing data sources such as local SCADA terminals.
- Grow the system modularly, allowing for the targeted analysis and review of specific energyusers.
- Integrate data to SAP for managerial dashboards and site reporting.

SOLUTION (continued)

By leveraging the Historian for Energy Manager's virtual metering on equipment and process energy flow, the facility gained an understanding of their usage and profile over a few weeks. The Energy Manager platform quickly identified users, processes and operational activities that could be changed simply and efficiently to kick off the reduction and performance improvement program.

PROJECTS

Using the information provided by the Energy Manager platform, Chobani could confidently propose several energy and process improvement projects ranging from significant scale capital expenditure to free system and work practice changes.

A small example of some of the proposed projects are:

- Chiller optimization: Estimated saving over \$300K/year
- Process improvement: Estimated saving over \$200K/year

This sample list of projects gives an idea of the potential savings made possible by utilizing the Energy Manager platform to present the facility's performance information and costs to management in justifying projects.



RESULTS

The results achieved by Chobani clearly show the benefits of using the Energy Manager platform instead of a traditional metering solution.

- A reduction of over 60% in capital expenditure by using Energy Manager compared to alternative systems.
- Zero plant downtime for installing and configuring the Energy Manager platform.
- Identify energy users and projects within weeks of the Energy Manager deployment.
- The Energy Manager identified inefficient processes, operational activities and equipment using excessive energy and underperforming in cycle time analysis investigations.

The Energy Manager platform now provides Chobani with a targeted analysis toolset that is easily expanded upon. Weekly energy usage reports and baseline information are generated. The reports enable management to keep an active view of the facility which they now incorporate into their standard facility business meetings.

LOOKING AHEAD

Chobani will continue utilizing and expanding the Energy Manager platform at all their facilities. It is now on target to achieve its energy reduction targets by implementing various projects. Additional stages will be for the continued expansion of the solution across the facilities to allow for the complete analysis of the organization and sites that are expanding. The Energy Manager platform has provided a greater understanding of energy usage and its associated costs for the facility. Chobani continues to strive in its continuous improvement programs through various standards and will now target itself to achieve ISO 50001 certification for energy management. The Energy Manager platform acts as the driving force behind the monitoring and analysis required to achieve this goal.