Industrial Assessment Centers

Small Manufacturers Reduce Energy & Increase Productivity

Since 1976, the Industrial Assessment Centers (IACs), administered by the US Department of Energy, have supported small and medium-sized American manufacturers to reduce energy use and increase their productivity and competitiveness. The 24 IACs, located at premier engineering universities around the country (see below), send faculty and engineering students to local small and medium-sized manufacturers to provide no-cost assessments of energy use, process performance and waste and water flows. Under the direction of experienced professors, IAC engineering students analyze the manufacturer’s facilities, energy bills and energy, waste and water systems, including compressed air, motors/pumps, lighting, process heat and steam. The IACs then follow up with written energy-saving and productivity improvement recommendations, with estimates of related costs and payback periods.

IAC Success to Date

- More than 17,000 manufacturers have benefitted from the program
- The IACs have provided more than 130,000 recommendations
- Average assessment leads to 5-7% implemented energy savings and productivity improvement

Assessment Sign Up

If you are a small or medium sized manufacturer meeting these general criteria:

- Have gross annual sales below $100M
- Have less than 500 employees
- Have annual energy bills between $100,000 and $2.5M

Contact your closest IAC to see if you are eligible for a no-cost assessment.

Looking to Hire an IAC Alumni?

Many manufacturer partners have benefited from the IAC experience by employing IAC engineers as interns or employees.

For more information go to: www.iacforum.org/

For IAC contact information or to determine if you are eligible for an assessment, see the following link: http://www.iac.university
Training the Nation’s Future Energy Engineers

In addition to providing assistance to small and medium-sized manufacturers, the IACs also provide real-world industrial experience to engineering students. The IAC program teaches and demonstrates energy system analysis and operations and couples that with in-field, hands-on experiences in a variety of different manufacturing environments. The engineering students are then ready to form the basis for a highly competitive energy efficiency workforce. The most accomplished of these students receive IAC Certificates – a portable credential demonstrating their energy and industrial expertise. The IAC program is proud to train these emerging engineers in order to support America’s position as the leader in manufacturing and industrial productivity.

IACs Collaboration with DOE & Federal Industrial Assistance

One of the unique attributes of the IAC program is that they work with other organizations, and even other agencies:

- Better Buildings, Better Plants (US DOE) – IACs are working with Better Plants partners to improve the energy efficiency and productivity of their smaller facilities and also firms in their supply chains, many of which are small and medium-sized manufacturers.

- Superior Energy Performance (US DOE) – Information obtained from IAC assessments can be used to support strategic energy management, or begin the process of achieving Superior Energy Performance.

- Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnerships (CHP TAPs) – IACs routinely collaborate with the CHP TAPs by providing referrals and by conducting preliminary screening analyses to identify potential opportunities for CHP implementation.

- Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) – IACs currently work directly with more than one-third of the Department of Commerce’s MEP centers providing client referrals and conducting joint assessments to provide technical and business assistance to manufacturers.

Student Highlights

- Over 53 percent of graduating IAC students entering the workforce have energy as a primary job responsibility

- The IACs have issued certificates to close to 1,000 engineering students

- More than 300 students are active in the IAC program each year and more than 3,300 have completed the program

IAC Database

More information on the services and results of assessments performed since 1981 can be found in the IAC database located here: www.iac.rutgers.edu/database

For additional information

US DOE Program Lead
John Smegal
US Department of Energy
(202) 287-6225
john.smegal@ee.doe.gov

IAC Field Administrator
http://iac.rutgers.edu/

The IAC Newsletter can be found at: http://www.energy.gov/eere/amo/industrial-assessment-centers-iacs