

ADM Pumps Up the Savings

ActOnEnergy[®]



As a global powerhouse in the agribusiness industry, Archer Daniels Midland Company (ADM) is known for bringing the “harvest to the home.” These days, ADM is also bringing home a harvest of energy savings, with a little seed money from ActOnEnergy.

With 265 processing plants and over 400 sourcing facilities around the world, ADM has a voracious appetite for energy. To make the most of that energy – and ease its impact on the environment – the Decatur-based company hired Thomas Mort to fill the new role of Global Program Manager, Energy Efficiency in 2011.

“As our corporate energy champion, my job is to develop, lead, implement and administer energy efficiency programs all around the world,” says Mort.

Mort quickly put his own energy into learning about opportunities available through the Ameren Illinois ActOnEnergy business programs. His efforts paid off when ADM received ActOnEnergy Staffing Grants at several facility locations.

“The grants help companies free up internal resources or hire external project managers to develop an energy efficiency project,” says Bob Baumgartner, Industrial Energy Efficiency Manager for ActOnEnergy.

Rather than using the extra funds to complete a specific project, ADM took a more strategic approach. “We needed to find common projects that could be replicated at all of our plants,” says Mort, who knew where to look first to pump up the savings.

“We have pumps and fans at almost every facility, and they are among our biggest energy users,” he says. “We used our Staffing Grant to hire the best pump experts in the field.”

In early 2012, those experts (Mike Pemberton of ITT Plant Performance Services and Tom Tucker of Kinergetics) began studying the efficiency of pumps at select plants in Decatur, Peoria and Quincy. The survey identified a number of quick fixes that led to an impressive payback for ADM.

Those fixes included relatively simple modifications to pumps, propellers and impellers, and more efficient combinations of valve control settings.

The studies also recommended the use of two small variable frequency drives (VFDs) that allow ADM to slow down fructose and dextrose pumps, rather than closing valves off entirely.

As Baumgartner explains, “VFDs allow you to adjust the motor’s speed and dial in to what’s needed instead of running full speed all the time.”

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The Bottom Line

Powered by ActOnEnergy Staffing Grants, ADM reduced its energy use by 48 million kilowatt-hours a year with simple pump modifications that can be replicated at plants around the world.

Get your motor running... at the right speed!

Variable frequency drives (VFDs) enhance efficiency by better matching a motor’s speed to changing processing needs. VFDs also reduce wear and tear, which prolongs the life of equipment.

ActOnEnergy offers great incentives for new projects that add VFDs to motors or pumps. In fact, we’ll cover up to 75 percent of your project costs for a quicker payback.

VFD Incentives Available

- Motors ≤ 500 horsepower: \$90/horsepower controlled
- Motors > 500 horsepower: 8 cents/kWh saved

FOCUSED ENERGY. For life.



Get Your Money Back from ActOnEnergy!

Did you know? ActOnEnergy programs are funded through a small, state-mandated charge on Ameren Illinois customer bills (Rider EDR for electricity customers and Rider GER for natural gas customers). It therefore makes sense for businesses to apply for incentives that will help them recover what they are paying into these programs.

Is your company making the most of its investment in ActOnEnergy? If not, call us today to get started!



Energy efficiency. It's good business.

In its first four years, ActOnEnergy provided more than \$20 million in incentives to help business customers save more than \$43 million in annual energy costs. Incentives are available for a variety of energy-saving projects, including lighting, heating and cooling, refrigeration, motors, VFDs, process improvements and compressed air.

Why wait?

Act on energy today – and save!

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The study also analyzed each of several pumps that feed water into a cooling tower—as well as the collective impact of those pumps – and recommended impeller modifications to boost efficiency. As a result, the plant was able to operate effectively with eight pumps rather than 10.

“When you can turn pumps off entirely, that’s where the really big savings are,” says Mort.

By the end of May 2012, ADM had finished 32 pump projects that reduced annual energy use by 48 million kilowatt-hours.

“The ActOnEnergy Staffing Grant is a great resource for businesses that don’t have the time or expertise in-house to complete energy efficiency projects.”

—Thomas Mort, Global Program Manager, Energy Efficiency, ADM

“We got a great return on that investment,” says Mort. And the savings don’t stop there.

Those initial pump improvements will churn out an almost endless stream of savings when they are replicated on thousands of additional pumps at ADM plants around the world. In fact, ADM has planned more than 90 pump-related projects in 2013 as a result of the studies funded by the ActOnEnergy Staffing Grant.

“To do energy efficiency projects, you first have to identify and define them. This is often a stumbling block for businesses—that’s why we leveraged the Staffing Grant opportunity to define projects,” says Mort. “The ActOnEnergy Staffing Grant is a great resource for businesses that don’t have the time or expertise in-house to complete energy efficiency projects.”

As ADM proves, when you point the corporate spotlight on energy efficiency, you can feed the world *and* your own appetite for savings.

Staff Up, Power Down

When your in-house resources are stretched too thin—or you need special expertise to identify energy efficiency projects—our Staffing Grants can help! A Staffing Grant can provide your business with up to \$80,000 to fund an energy project manager position.

Ameren Illinois introduced the ActOnEnergy Staffing Grant program in 2011 to meet a common need.

“Our business customers would often say, ‘We’d love to do energy efficiency projects, we just don’t have the people to get it done,’” says ActOnEnergy’s Bob Baumgartner.

Through a competitive process, ActOnEnergy awards more than 20 grants each year to help businesses hire the people they need to move energy efficiency projects forward. Those people can be new or current employees, full or part-time, as well as consultants. The amount of the grant varies depending on the estimated energy savings.

To learn more or download an application, go to ActOnEnergy.com/Staff. Our own staff of Energy Advisors is available free-of-charge to help your business identify potential projects.