

2012 TEEA Winner Water Conservation Category:

Anheuser-Busch Houston Brewery

Narrator:

At Anheuser-Busch's Houston brewery—24 bottles of beer roll off the assembly line every second—but perhaps the most impressive statistic here is the water savings: 577 million gallons last year alone.

Dave Cohen, Brewmaster:

Water is a key ingredient to beer. So us taking good care and being good corporate citizens, and the way we use water is very important to us.

Narrator:

The brewery's instituted more than 150 water conservation measures over the past four years affecting every step of the operation. Dual-range probes, for example, ensure brewing tanks are not over-rinsed during the bottling process water is collected and rerouted for use in the plant's cooling operations.

Kevin Jensen, Process Engineer:

When you're talking, one and a half to two million gallons a day we've been able to reduce in this facility, that's pretty rewarding, especially through the drought we went through last year knowing that we're doing a little bit to help that.

Chad Brownell, Senior Resident Engineer:

Instrumentation has played a key part into our ability to control the amount of water that we use.

Narrator:

Senior Engineer Chad Brownell says many of the suggestions come from employees themselves.

Chad Brownell:

We have a ... an employee idea process, it actually rewards employees for coming up with and helping implement various projects or initiatives to reduce water.

Narrator:

The brewery's environmental stewardship extends beyond water. A comprehensive recycling program captures more than 99 percent of the facility's waste.

Holly Curry, Environmental Health & Safety Manager:

Everything that you see come into our facility, if it can be recycled when it leaves the facility, it is recycled.

Chad Brownell:

We ultimately want to be the best brewery in the world for water usage.