

Suwannee American Cement - the great winner of ENERGY STAR Award



Suwannee American Cement (SAC) in Branford, Florida has been awarded the 2008 ENERGY STAR award by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for its superior energy performance. The ENERGY STAR is a distinguishing mark of energy efficiency for cement plants in the United States and identifies SAC's status among the most energy-efficient based on its performance in the EPA's National Energy Performance Rating System.

SAC first applied for membership in the voluntary program in 2006 and then applied for and achieved ENERGY STAR certification in 2007.

To be eligible to apply for certification, a cement plant must meet the below conditions:

- **Energy performance** in the top 25 percent of similar existing plants, indicated by a minimum rating of 75 out of 100 as determined through the most current version of the ENERGY STAR plant energy performance indicator tool for this type of plant;
- **Safe lighting levels** that meet the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA) recommended best practices for industrial facilities as described in IESNA Lighting Handbook; 9th Edition, Chapter 19; and,
- **No Clean Air Act High Priority Violations** within the past three years.

"As far as energy efficiency, SAC's energy performance score of 100 in 2008 indicates that it operated in the 100th percentile range of cement plants in the United States; indicating benchmark performance within the industry," according to Krishna Cole, Environmental Engineer at SAC. "This is a 2 point improvement over SAC's 2007 already excellent energy performance score of 98, and a 5 point improvement over SAC's baseline year (2004)", added Krishna.

In a letter to the plant management from Jean Lupinacci, Director, Commercial and Industrial Branch, ENERGY STAR, Mr. Lupinacci writes, "The employees at Suwannee American Cement and your Corporate Environmental Engineer, Mr. Krishna Cole, should be commended for their ability to reduce energy use and protect the environment through energy efficiency. Strong energy performance in a corporation states at the top, and your commitment and support can help Suwannee American Cement, LLC reach new levels of achievement".

Congratulations to all employees involved!