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Improved energy efficiency saves SCA Hygiene costs and provides a better environment

Vattenfall has improved energy efficiency at SCA Hygiene Products GmbH in Mannheim. This collaboration, which is expected to provide both financial and environmental benefits, is now entering the second phase: operation and evaluation.

In the first phase Vattenfall identified some ten energy saving measures, and five of these have now been implemented. These relate to condensate recycling (November 2001), utilisation of secondary heat for pre-heating the water in the process, and improving the efficiency of the evaporation plant (June 2002).

The implemented measures provide savings by recycling the condensate and reducing the consumption of natural gas. The latter has been achieved by using recycled low-grade heat instead of steam produced using natural gas. The value of these savings amounts to EUR 750,000 per year.

SCA Hygiene Products GmbH in Mannheim manufactures hygiene products and raw materials for such products. The agreement with Vattenfall on improving energy efficiency was concluded in January 2001. Vattenfall has worked on an incentive basis to identify profitable savings measures and to design, install, and finance these measures.

"These improvements in energy efficiency have significantly reduced the production costs. They are also helping to improve the environment, as natural gas combustion is being replaced by the recycling of low-grade heat," says the business project leader, John Murray. "Vattenfall has also contributed implementation resources to the project and this has relieved the load on the customer's organisation."

Vattenfall is collaborating on a similar project with SCA Packaging Munksund.

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