

Clean Production Leaders Factsheet



WNY Sustainable Business Roundtable (SBR)

The SBR is a 501(c)(3) organization creating a local sustainable business environment in WNY that: focuses on P2 and sustainability solutions, fosters collaborations, and supports the exchange of ideas. SBR offers educational workshops, facility tours, an annual Sustainable Business Summit, networking, recognition, and platform for business to business collaboration and technical support. SBR's unique value to the local community is as a leading voice in local business sustainability providing education and connections. SBR tracks their members' progress through an awards program, which is a self-reporting tool that annually tracks member businesses progress in key sustainability metrics areas.



Overview

Project Goal:

Business - based pollution prevention solutions supporting Toxic Substance Control Act and chemical safety.

Project Partners:

- New York State Pollution Prevention Institute
- Clean Production Action
- Erie County Department of Environment & Planning

Participating Businesses:

- Tapecon
- Niagara Malt
- Catholic Health

Funding was provided by the Environmental Protection Agency Source Reduction Assistance Grant



Clean Production Action (CPA)

CPA is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization that designs and delivers tools and support to help businesses advance use of green chemicals, sustainable materials, and environmentally preferable products. CPA has developed the Chemical Footprint Project (CFP) Survey, a tool that provides an evaluation of chemicals, health, and safety management using a publicly transparent question and response questionnaire. SBR used the CFP tool as a key tool to demonstrate best practices, while CPA supported the project with trainings, technical support, and scoring questionnaire results, including evaluation for correlations between actions and results.



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NYS Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I)

NYSP2I offers direct P2 technical assistance to qualified New York businesses. Their partnership was a powerful & natural synergy for this project as they served as a technical advisor to the project, and specifically provided guidance for the outreach campaign. NYSP2I also provided direct P2 technical assistance to participants who became interested in clean production projects as a result of the project campaign. NYSP2I's funding is provided by the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.



Methods

- Conducted targeted outreach to SBR member businesses.
- Presented to prospective participating businesses at monthly project meetings.
- Presented at SBR educational & networking events.
- Recruited speakers for presentations.
- Created a project [webpage](#).



Project Results

- Two participating businesses successfully completed P2I projects resulting in increased insight into the hazards of their chemical inventory.
- Two participating businesses successfully completed the CFP survey.
- All participating businesses now have a chemical inventory and policy.
- Tapecon & Niagara Malt now have a reduced chemical footprint
- Tapecon has also identified chemicals for future reduction efforts.
- Businesses in WNY now have an increased awareness of chemical footprinting.
- Participating businesses have increased their worker's health and safety.
- Three case studies were produced.
- One webinar was produced.

Lessons Learned

- Chemical footprinting opens the door to or can provide a template for other waste management within businesses.
- A voluntary approach to chemical footprinting is difficult, businesses are more likely to participate with regulatory stakeholder, or economic pressure.
- This chemical footprinting methodology can be applied to manufacturing process chemicals and facilities maintenance.

Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed as a project partner of SBR are those of NYSP2I and do not necessarily reflect the views of New York State. Further, although the information in this document has been funded wholly or in part by the EPA, it has not gone through the Agency's publications review process and, therefore, may not necessarily reflect the views of the Agency and no official endorsement should be inferred.



We found the entire process to be an eye opening experience and received a true education on ingredients found in commonly used products and their larger implications on what happens when people and the environment are exposed to them. Working with the groups from R.I.T., P2I, SBR was an amazing experience!

- Catholic Health