

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS MANUFACTURING

Run a Cleaner, More Efficient Business

In addition to creating a positive environmental impact, energy efficient business practices can have a positive impact on your company's bottom-line.

Green Government Opportunities for Small Businesses

The Small Business Administration has established a program geared specifically toward smaller companies that wish to take advantage of "green" initiatives that are overseen by the federal government: http://green.sba.gov/.

NIST Energy Savings Portal

The National Institute of Standards and Technology maintains an online resource dedicated to informing the public about innovations in energy efficient building techniques and products. To see their findings and recommended actions, visit:

http://www.nist.gov/energy-portal.cfm.

EPA Lean Manufacturing and the Environment

For additional resources on streamlining and improving manufacturing techniques, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides case studies and other materials that explain the benefits of lean manufacturing methods:

http://www.epa.gov/lean/environment/

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

The FERC devotes significant attention to energy efficient methods of production and construction. A list of their programs can be found at http://www.ferc.gov/. To contact the FERC directly, call 1-866-208-3372 or email customer@ferc.gov.

Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency

The following federal tax credits are available to small businesses for making energy efficiency upgrades:

- Tax Credits for Home Builders
- Tax Credits for Manufacturers
- Tax Deductions for Commercial Buildings
- Tax Incentives for Hybrid, Electric and Alternative Fuel Vehicles

For specific information on these tax credits, visit http://www.sba.gov/content/federal-tax-credits-energy-efficiency

EPA Sustainable Business Clearinghouse

The Sustainable Manufacturing Clearinghouse, part of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), was created to provide U.S. companies with a central portal for information on programs and resources that can assist in enhancing competitiveness and profitability in environmentally sustainable ways. These resources include: case studies, compliance assistance, financial assistance, general information, how-to guides, metrics/assessment tools, research, tax incentives, technical assistance, training opportunities, and voluntary or partnership programs:

http://www.epa.gov/sustainablemanufacturing/clearinghouse.htm

E3 (Economy, Energy, and Environment)

E3 (Economy, Energy, and Environment) is a coordinated federal initiative among the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Manufacturing Extension Program, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Labor, Small Business Administration, and U.S. Department of Agriculture that teams with local communities to provide technical assistance to manufacturers to create green jobs, increase energy cost savings and reduce environmental impacts. E3 started as a pilot effort in two cities in 2009 and now has grown into a framework in numerous communities among 15 states.

http://www.nist.gov/mep/e3.cfm