



San Francisco  
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## **San Francisco State University Offers No-Cost Energy/Waste/ Productivity Assessments**

Thanks to a contract with University City Science Center, of Philadelphia, under the auspices of the Department of Energy, SFSU's School of Engineering is offering a free service to manufacturers. Under this program, a team of engineering faculty and students from the Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) conducts plant assessments for interested manufacturers. The team makes an on-site visit at a mutually agreeable time, reviews the plant's processes and performs measurements related to energy usage, productivity and waste management. The assessment visit lasts about one day, and includes a review of all mechanical and electrical equipment, lighting and HVAC.

Two months after the visit, clients receive a confidential, detailed engineering report recommending ways to improve productivity, reduce energy consumption and waste generation, including estimated implementation costs and payback period. Since the program is fully funded by the Department of Energy, there is no fee for this service and manufacturers are under no obligation to implement the recommendations. Thus far, our recommended measures have shown average potential savings of about 16% of a firm's annual energy bill. As we are not associated with any vendor or products, our recommendations are totally unbiased.

The service is intended primarily for small to medium size manufacturers within 150 miles of San Francisco with fewer than 500 employees and less than \$75,000,000 gross sales per year for a given plant. The manufacturer's annual energy bill should be between \$70,000 and \$1.75 million. Exceptions to the size criteria may be made on a case by case basis. Additionally, selected agricultural and mining categories may also be included.

Although this nationwide program dates back to 1976, the center at San Francisco State University was established in October 1992 and has completed more than 200 assessments. There are 29 other Centers in operation across the country at participating universities. In addition to providing a service to manufacturers, the IAC program is designed to enrich the educational experience of engineering faculty and students by involving them with the local industry.

Information can be found at: our website at <http://sleepy.engineering.sfsu.edu/iac>, phone (415) 338-6218, email: [eadc@sfsu.edu](mailto:eadc@sfsu.edu) or mail to the administrator, Ron Trauner at the following address:

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