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## **ENERGY STAR Program Helps Cement Industry Improve Energy Efficiency, Shift Performance Curve**

A new report by the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions at Duke University affirms that the ENERGY STAR program has helped improve the energy efficiency of the cement manufacturing industry, which has cut its energy intensity by 13 percent over a decade. This improvement is equivalent to a total source energy use reduction of over 60 trillion Btu and an annual emissions reduction of almost 1.5 million metric tons of energy-related carbon, according to the report. Cement manufacturing is very energy intensive, and the improvements represent a substantial shift in the industry's energy efficiency curve.

The report, *Measuring Improvement in the Energy Performance of the U.S. Cement Industry*, validates EPA's energy management strategy, particularly the importance of performance measurement and recognition for top performance. The report also demonstrates that the gap between top performing cement manufacturing plants and others has closed and the performance of the industry as a whole has improved.

Central to this energy management approach is the ENERGY STAR Energy Performance Indicator (EPI) for cement plants, which enables industry to benchmark plant energy performance against peers and over time. ENERGY STAR EPIs exist or are under development for more than 20 industries. Manufacturing plants that have earned EPA's ENERGY STAR certification save more than 245 trillion Btu, nearly \$1.5 billion in utility costs, and nearly 4.5 million metric tons of carbon annually.

The U.S. cement industry produces goods valued at over \$10.6 billion and employs nearly 18,000 persons. The U.S. industrial sector accounts for 30 percent of energy use in the United States. If the energy efficiency of industrial facilities improved by 10 percent, EPA estimates that Americans would save over \$14 billion and reduce greenhouse gas emissions equal to the emissions from the electricity use of more than 20 million homes for a year. Hundreds of industrial companies are working with EPA's ENERGY STAR program to develop strong energy management programs, earn ENERGY STAR certification for their plants and achieve breakthrough improvements in energy efficiency.

Read the report:

<http://nicholasinstitute.duke.edu/environmentaleconomics/measuring-improvement-cement-industry>

Access EPA's real-time registry of ENERGY STAR certified plants:

<http://www.energystar.gov/buildinglist>

Find more information about Energy Star's work with the cement industry:

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=in\\_focus.bus\\_cement\\_manuf\\_focus](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=in_focus.bus_cement_manuf_focus)