

triple bottom line report

cascade engineering fiscal year 2009

**social
environmental
economic**



CASCADE
engineering

The Cascade Family of Companies

sustainability drives innovation

At Cascade Engineering we believe that sustainability drives innovation and growth across the three capitals that comprise the Triple Bottom Line. We were founded on the belief that building social and environmental capital is not only the right thing to do but also makes good business sense.

Over the past decade, we have built a business strategy focused on sustainability that drives innovation in our company. We are committed to make a positive impact on our society, the environment and to be financially successful.

Cascade's Triple Bottom Line Report serves as a documenting mechanism for all sustainability efforts and measurements throughout the organization. We welcome you to explore this year's report which highlights the social, environmental and economic initiatives that continue to be an important part of our company. This year's report covers fiscal year 2009 which began September 1, 2008 and ended August 31, 2009.

*Cascade's LEED-EB Platinum certified building,
The Learning Community, in Grand Rapids, Michigan.*



letter from Fred Keller

This past year was an extraordinary one for our nation and the world, and Cascade Engineering was certainly not immune to the crisis that turned the financial system and our economy upside down. Thankfully, the worst of the immediate crisis appears to have eased, but I remain convinced that we have not absorbed yet in our economy the long term structural shift that is occurring. Cascade is in fact charting a course that takes into account the very real possibility that further shortages in raw materials and fossil fuels will continue to cause disruptions and displacements in the future.

In my opinion, the recent “great recession” has actually strengthened the case for sustainability. Our U.S. culture of high consumption compared to the rest of the world carries with it a risk of future economic difficulties. At the same time this creates a real business opportunity for organizations like Cascade Engineering who plan to capitalize on the changes that will ultimately need to be made.

During the past year, we have intensified our longstanding sustainability commitment so that it is now our leading business strategy, and at the centerpiece of everything we do. Holding to this course has meant making innovation our mantra, confident in the knowledge that our innovation is making a real difference for our customers, partners and communities. It has also meant driving innovation both above and below the line in the sustainability equation – that is, in both the “numerator” (growth in products and services) and “denominator” (reducing impacts).

This model offers a useful framework for reviewing our progress during the past year. Cascade’s accomplishments in boosting the numerator were significant, reflecting our focus on increasing the percentage of what we do that falls within the sustainable category. In 2009, we developed a pallet made from 100% recycled plastic, a non-volatile organic compound (VOC) in-mold coating process and added solar products to our renewable energy portfolio.

Likewise, we can point to similarly important achievements in reducing our environmental impacts. For example, we’re taking much less waste to the landfill: down from \$268,000 in 2002 to \$8,000 last year. We have also sought to maintain our commitment to denominator reduction even when the economy has created adverse pricing conditions. Even as oil prices and sales volumes fell, making recycled plastic more expensive relative to virgin, Cascade actually used record amounts of recycled plastic.

The broader economy certainly tested our mettle during the past year, but Cascade’s commitment to sustainability and focus on innovation only intensified, providing not only a compass through the challenging times, but real bottom line results for us. We invite our customers, suppliers, and partners to join us as we endeavor to make a positive impact in our collective world!



*President, CEO, Chairman and
Chief Technology Officer*

table of contents

letter from Fred Keller - 3

social

welfare to career - 5
schools of hope - 5
charitable giving programs - 6
new social programs - 7
employees understand sustainability - 8
safety incident rates decrease - 9

environmental

environmental management - 11
environmental achievements - 12
environmental recognitions - 13
sustainable products - 14
sustainable initiatives and partnerships - 15

economic

cascade renewable energy - 17
cascade top five - 17
a sustainable strategy drives growth - 18
annual scorecard - 19

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fred A. Keller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



social capital

“ The Schools of Hope program is a great example of Cascade Engineering employees engaging our community by investing their time to help elementary students read at grade level. The Cascade volunteers’ commitment to ensure that Grand Rapids’ next generation of entrepreneurs is academically prepared for the future exemplifies the social aspect of the Triple Bottom Line. ”

Kenyatta Brame

Chief Administrative Officer

Cascade employee Lisa Reminga, a Schools of Hope program volunteer, tutors Yesenia Leon at Congress Elementary.

welfare to career

Cascade Engineering established the Welfare-to-Career program over 10 years ago and since its inception we've seen employees in the program move from dependence on the Department of Human Services to economic self-sufficiency. The program offers opportunities to both the employees and the community by providing education, coaching, mentoring, transportation and resource guidance.

The Welfare-to-Career program is unique in its implementation as it supports both sides of the equation – by providing resources for the individual beginning employment and for those who will be working with the individual. A key to the success of our program has been the availability of an on-site case worker who helps this individual work through the personal challenges of entering the work environment.

Although the program has averaged a monthly retention rate of 97% for many years, in fiscal year 2009 the program's retention rate decreased to 95%. Most of the decrease was due to recessionary adjustments (retirements and voluntary buyouts) that were made during the first half of the year. Currently, there are about 40 employees at Cascade that are in the program, and retention rates are back up to previous levels.

“Not only does the Welfare-to-Career program continue to exemplify our company's belief that taking care of the greater good can also be good for business, but as a nationally recognized best practice, it enables us to make a difference on a broader scale by helping other organizations implement similar programs,” says Kelley Losey, Business Leader of Quest Sustainable Solutions.

schools of hope

Each year, Cascade employees invest their time, passion and energy to tutor school children within the Grand Rapids Public Schools (GRPS). The Schools of Hope program is a partnership between United Way and GRPS, and its mission is to help elementary students read at grade level.

Cascade employees have been actively involved in this program at Congress Elementary volunteering an hour each week to ensure each child is academically prepared for the future.

“When you're working with a child who's struggling to read even basic words, it's truly overwhelming and fulfilling to see the child beginning to read!” says Lauren Clark, Schools of Hope Coordinator at Cascade. “We have an opportunity to make a lasting difference in the lives of these children.”

Cascade Engineering has been working on social capital since its inception. We believe that creating a culture that supports, respects and values diversity is the key to our success.

Programs such as Welfare-to-Career have been a tremendous asset in shaping our internal culture into one that embraces diversity and supports people with respect and dignity.

Safety is also a key area of focus for Cascade and 2009 was a milestone year as we continued to bring down the incident rates and earned a MVPP Star Award from MIOSHA.

In this section, you will find the social initiatives, ongoing and new, that positively impact society and benefit our company at the same time.

charitable giving programs

charitable contributions

As a company, Cascade Engineering maintains a charitable contributions fund, focusing on the arts, business development, community relations, education, human/social services and health. In fiscal year 2009, the total company contributions were \$154,481, a 21% increase over the previous year.

The charitable contributions fund is managed by a contributions committee whose purpose is “to improve the vitality and quality of life in communities in which Cascade employees reside through educational, human service and health activities, with emphasis on preventative purpose.” Because of the tough economy last year, the committee’s focus was on human services, providing food and shelter for those in need.

contributions
(in thousands)



united way

In 2009, Cascade Engineering employees gave generously to the Heart of West Michigan United Way’s Live United campaign. The Heart of West Michigan “advances the common good, creating opportunities for a good life by focusing on education, income and health.” Cascade supports United Way’s efforts to build a strong, healthy and educated community.

Each year, the United Way team at Cascade comes up with creative ideas to increase participation rates and overall donation dollars. This year was no different. Several fund raising events were held throughout the campaign’s duration that encouraged camaraderie and friendly competition – all with the end purpose to make a larger impact on our community.

United Way Fund Raising Events

- Kick-off Event – Walking Taco Day
- Annual Golf Outing
- Leaders’ Forum Silent Auction – Gift Baskets
- Fred’s Big Give
- Online Silent Auction
- Battle of the Fans – U of M vs. MSU
- LIVE UNITED T-shirt/Jeans Sales
- Candy Bar Sales



Tiawanda Humes is one of Cascade’s many employees who donate funds and time to United Way.

new social programs in 2009

health horizons Health Horizons is a wellness program created by Cascade Engineering to address the rising cost of healthcare and to promote healthy behaviors throughout the employee population. “Our best option is to encourage preventative health care which helps people stay healthy and addresses the rising costs at the same time – it is a true partnership between the company and the employee,” says Linda Grund, Director of Human Resources.

Employees have the opportunity to earn credits that can lower their insurance contribution up to \$12 per week (\$624 per year) through documentation of healthy behavior and/or activities. In fiscal year 2009, 99% of the employees earned a financial incentive to participate in the program, which is remarkable considering the program is in its infancy.

Health Horizons Activities

- New Year’s Drop and Holiday Holdout
- Strive for 5 (Summer Sizzler, Stepping into Spring, Cascade Cross Country, 10K a Day and Fall Friendzee)
- Health Fair
- Weight Watchers Subsidy
- Tobacco Cessation
- On-site Energy Center
- Free Health Risk Assessments
- Free Flu Shots

women’s mentoring The Women’s Mentoring program at Cascade began as a grass roots movement by the senior level women to increase opportunity, visibility, retention and camaraderie for women in the organization. To support the diversity that is so important to the Cascade culture, the women’s mentoring program sought to ensure that women in the organization realize their full potential, both professionally and personally.

There are three main areas of focus for the group – Skill & Career Development, Organizational & Cultural Understanding and Opportunity Development & Women’s Advocacy. The group meets frequently in a variety of formats to accommodate both work and life schedules. From outside speakers to book reviews, women gather to discuss issues and challenges that are specific to women.

“I enjoy the opportunity to interact with women I do not communicate with during a typical work day. The Women’s Mentoring group provides a forum for sharing success stories, discussing issues relevant to women and building relationships,” says Julie Obrecht, Customer Service Supervisor for Cascade Cart Solutions.



Areas of Focus

- Skill & Career Development
- Organizational & Cultural Understanding
- Opportunity Development & Women’s Advocacy

employees understand sustainability

employee survey

Every two years, Cascade Engineering conducts an employee survey to assess the company culture and to address any subsequent issues. In the 2008 employee survey, three new questions were added regarding sustainability. The responses were affirming. With 88% of the employee population participating in the survey, we found a significantly positive response to the following questions.

	Score
1. I value the concept of sustainability	4.11
2. I understand the concept of sustainability	4.14
3. I feel sustainable initiatives contribute to the future success of the company	3.84

We are pleased to see that our employees, at all levels, understand sustainability, recognize its value and many believe that it will contribute to the future success of Cascade Engineering.

employee spotlight

Each year, Cascade Engineering awards an employee and/or team with the Social Capital /Diversity award for outstanding social responsibility and contribution to the community. This year, the award was given to Chuck Chase who personifies this company credo.

In November 2007, the Chase family met a 13 year old Russian boy named Alex who was visiting the U.S. through a host program. In Russia, when orphaned children leave the orphanage at age 16, only 25% of them make it to 25 years of age. Most of these children get involved in drugs and gangs, and die as young adults. Chuck and his family were profoundly touched by this tragic statistic and began their journey to make a difference, one life at a time.

During Alex's visit, the Chase family had the opportunity to interact with him only 3 or 4 times, but despite the language barrier, a bond was formed. Well aware of the challenges that lay ahead, and after much thought and prayer, the Chases began adoption proceedings to make Alex a part of their family. The road was long and filled with many legal issues, but after 9 months of work and perseverance, they were able to bring Alex back to Grand Rapids, to his new home and family. And through the entire process, Chuck managed to navigate this time consuming procedure in a calm and unobtrusive manner, meeting all his tasks and duties at work without any issues or delays.

The Chase family is still adjusting to its newest member, and likewise, Alex is still adjusting to his new family, new home and new country. The challenges are not insignificant but the opportunity to provide a better life is worth the effort. Cascade Engineering is proud to give the Social Capital / Diversity award to Chuck Chase, and his family.

Survey Rating Scale

- 1 = Strongly Disagree
- 2 = Disagree
- 3 = Neither Agree nor Disagree
- 4 = Agree
- 5 = Strongly Agree



The Chase family - Linda and Chuck and their sons (from left to right) Benjamin, Alex and Brandon.

safety incident rates continue to decrease

safety

At Cascade Engineering, we believe that safety begins with a commitment from each and every employee. Communication is a key part of making sure that all employees understand the importance of safety, and in 2009 we built an increased awareness of safety throughout the company with a variety of behavior based processes. Safety is highlighted in monthly company shift meetings, bringing awareness to incidents which include safety, security, first aid and near misses.

We created the role of a “safety champion” for each shift in each plant across campus. The safety champion is empowered to identify safety issues through audits, solicit employee concerns and recognize safe behavior. To assure that all employees have an opportunity to lead this effort, the role has been designed as a six week rotational assignment. Empowering employees to lead the safety effort has had a profound effect on attitude and responsibility, and the results are evident in decreasing safety incident rates.

Finally we have revamped the entire accident investigation process to identify the root cause and build appropriate action plans. By engaging our Operation Excellence (LEAN Six Sigma) Team, we’ve converted the accident investigation process from a “5 Why” approach to a behavior based process. The results have shown that establishing root cause allows us to address the problem in a more in-depth manner and implement preventative measures, vastly decreasing the likelihood of recurrence.

As we find ways to strengthen our safety programs, we continue to reach new milestones each year. In FY 2009, four of our facilities went beyond 300 days without a recordable incident. Overall our Safety Incident Rate and Lost/Restricted Workday Rate for the company as a whole remain well below the industry averages, as shown in the graphs to the right.

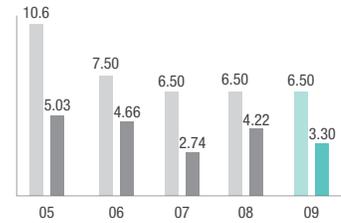
mvpp star award

2009 was a milestone year for safety! Cascade Engineering Industrial Solutions Container Group was awarded the Star Award through the Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP), a prestigious designation awarded to only 25 other facilities in the state by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA).

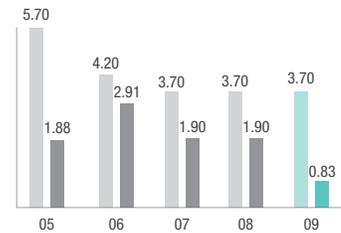
In 2006, Cascade Industrial Solutions Container Group was awarded the Rising Star Award, and during the three year interim, a great deal of work was completed to obtain the Star ranking. The MVPP Star program recognizes those companies that have an exemplary safety and health management system with injury and illness incidence rates below the industry average for the last three years.

“We are honored and proud to have received the Star Award by MIOSHA. It was a rigorous process that required the involvement and commitment from people across the company,” states Sharon Darby, Senior Manager of Environmental, Safety and Sustainability. “At the end of the day, we know we’ve created an environment that is safe for our employees – and that is very rewarding.”

incident rate



lost/restricted workday rate



■ industry average rates
(source: north american industrial classification system)
■ cascade engineering rates





environmental capital

“ The enviroCKote™ technology is an excellent example of how sustainability can drive product and process development to create innovative solutions that bring value to our customers. It is exciting to see the extent to which sustainability is integrated into all of our business unit strategies. ”

Mark Miller
President of CK Technologies

Blandford Nature Center, located in Grand Rapids, MI, is the future site for Cascade's SWIFT Wind Turbine. Photo credited to Blandford Nature Center.

environmental management system

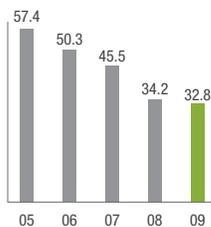
Cascade Engineering recognizes the obligations and responsibilities we have to ensure that we conduct our operations in a manner that protects the earth's environment and conserves natural resources. We strive to build a sustainable organization and are committed to protecting the environment.

We manage environmental progress and initiatives through our Environmental Management System (EMS) which is accredited to ISO 14001 Standards. All of our campus operations are ISO 14001 certified as well as the CKT facility in Montpelier, OH. Our environmental statement specified the following three areas of achievement:

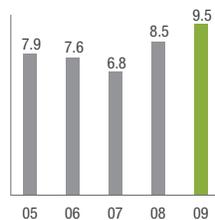
1. To protect the environment by continuously working toward the reduction of waste with the ultimate goal of minimizing all negative impact on natural and man-made resources.
2. To evaluate our environmental management programs and systems to ensure continuous improvement in the areas of waste and accident identification, reduction and elimination.
3. To understand every phase of the life cycle of our products – from raw materials and production to use and recycling – thereby contributing to the sustainability of our company and our community.

With these objectives in mind, we continue to design and implement programs to reduce waste to landfill, manage energy and water consumption, measure greenhouse gases and increase the use of recycled materials in our products. The graphs below show performance measurements achieved in fiscal year 2009.

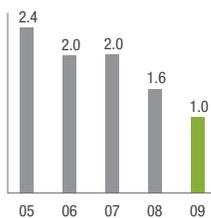
greenhouse gas emissions
(metric tons of CO2 equivalent in thousands)



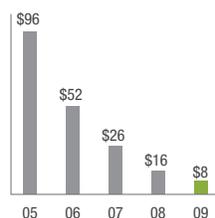
use of post consumer and industrial recycled material
(pounds in millions)



water consumption
(cubic feet per million)



waste to landfill
(in thousands)



Cascade Engineering continues to build environmental capital by reducing our impact on the environment and developing sustainable products and services.

In 2009, our waste to landfill expenditures were at an all time low and our use of recycled plastic at an all time high since we began documentation in 2002.

Our focus on sustainable innovation led us to commercialize two new products – a pallet made from 100% recycled plastic and a non-VOC in-mold coating. In addition, we had four other sustainable initiatives and partnerships that expanded our sustainable product portfolio.

In this section, we highlight our environmental capital work in the areas of environmental management systems, achievements, recognitions, new products, and new initiatives and partnerships.

environmental achievements in 2009

reduction of waste to landfill

Perhaps the most significant demonstration of Cascade employees' commitment to sustainability is the reduction of waste to landfill over the past 8 years.

The Waste Reduction Team, now known as the Zero Waste Team, is a self managed team whose mission is to benefit our community and company by recycling and thus reducing the amount of waste going to landfill. "This team has worked diligently to create ways to help everyone in the company and community to recycle more. Everything from color coded recycling areas in the plant to recycling of organic waste in the kitchen areas has been employed in an effort to recycle more and waste less," says Troy Andrews, Zero Waste Team Member and Senior Front Line Leader.

The Zero Waste Team also facilitates efforts in our Neighborhood Recycling Center that is open to the community. New recycling opportunities have been added which include, batteries, electronics and used sports equipment.

By conducting quarterly "dumpster dives", the team is able to take inventory of recyclable things that are being currently thrown away, and then figure out how to encourage employees to recycle more. Their efforts have paid off as the amount of money being spent on Waste to Landfill has dramatically decreased over the past few years. In fact Cascade Engineering used to spend \$268,000 in 2002 on waste going to landfill, and in 2009 we spent only \$8,000!

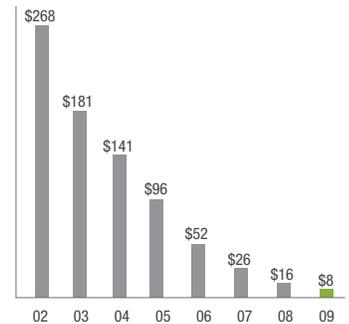
leed certification

In late 2008, the CK Technologies' Mt. Airy, NC manufacturing facility was LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. The Mt. Airy facility was constructed based on LEED standards which include measurement of the following – sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy & atmosphere, materials & resources, indoor environment & quality, and innovation & design. The newly constructed facility received 27 points out of a total of 69 to obtain the LEED certification.

With less than 4% cost premium to build the facility to LEED standards, CK Technologies anticipates recovering its investment in 5 years of operation, and the payback will continue through the life of the building. "We are proud of our LEED Certified facility and believe that a building can be designed to improve the quality of life for the occupants, save energy costs, help the local economy, and improve the environment," says Vincent Parker-Kline, LEED AP & Environmental Health and Safety Coordinator for CK Technologies.

waste to landfill

(in thousands)



environmental recognitions in 2009

swift wind turbine

Cascade Engineering was the proud recipient of the Society of Plastics Engineers' GPEC (Global Plastics Environmental Conference) 2009 Environmental Award for its SWIFT Wind Turbine. The award category was "New Environmental Technologies in Conventional Plastic Materials" and was given to Cascade for the development of the SWIFT injection molded rotor. The SWIFT Wind Turbine rotor blade replaces the conventional carbon fiber laminated version and provides the following benefits:

- A thermoplastic material that offers recyclability of the blades after their useful life
- Eliminates resin emissions present during the lamination phase of the carbon fiber process
- Eliminates labor intensive process and exposure to resin emissions

The SWIFT Wind Turbine's mounting brackets and patented diffuser ring minimize turbine noise. In addition, the five blade design allows for a slower speed of rotation to further reduce noise, making the SWIFT Wind Turbine one of the quietest wind systems for homes and businesses alike. Generating electricity with the SWIFT Wind Turbine provides an environmentally smart energy source for residential, community, and industrial use.

Cascade was recognized for demonstrating environmental leadership, stewardship and excellence through significant achievement.



rain store

Cascade Engineering began its journey towards developing a rain barrel about two years ago. The effort began with a series of initial designs and various consumer focus groups including one with the City of Ann Arbor residents. The feedback was unanimous – rain barrels were not aesthetically appealing and had functional issues with overflow.

In late 2008, Cascade teamed up with NextLife to create a rain collection system that was highly functional as well as beautiful. "Our objective was to design a rain barrel that people would be eager to use both in terms of function and appearance. We believed that we could make a larger impact on water conservation if we could expand consumer adoption," says Mike Lewis, Director of New Product Development at Cascade.

The RainStore is the result of great collaboration between Cascade and NextLife. The 50 gallon RainStore maximizes rain collection because it sits flush against the home's exterior, has a highly functioning overflow outlet and is made from 40% recycled resin.

The RainStore was honored with the 2010 Housewares Design Award presented by Home World Business, in the Lighting, Home Décor and Outdoor Living category.



new sustainable products in 2009

racx[®] pallet Decade Products, a joint partnership between Dolav Plastic Products and Cascade Engineering Inc., launched a new pallet manufactured from 100% recycled high density polyethylene. The new RACX[®] Pallet combines strength, economy and sustainability in a lightweight one-piece design for superior performance.



The idea to design and manufacture a 100% recycled pallet was born from market opportunity and fueled by sustainable strategy. “Designing a pallet that would be made from 100% recycled plastic was neither quick nor easy, but we decided to stay the course to follow our sustainable thinking,” says Ralph Harris, President of Decade Products.

Using Design for Environment (DFE) and ergonomic principles, the engineering team set out to design a product that would accommodate a wider specification of plastic. The end result was a durable, cost effective, recycled pallet that uses less resin and is recyclable at the end of its useful life.

The RACX[®] Pallet obtained the MBDC Cradle-to-Cradle Certification based on the following aspects:

- Use of recycled plastic and recyclable material
- Reduction of weight and increased payload
- Elimination of maintenance
- Increased fuel economy for the carriers



In 2009, CK Technologies (CKT) proudly launched the enviroCKote[™] In-Mold Coating process for large tonnage injection molding exterior applications as a part of their ongoing sustainable product development strategy. The enviroCKote[™] employs a process in which a coating is introduced into the mold during the molding cycle thereby eliminating the need for some secondary coating operations. At this time, CKT is commercializing conductive primers; however, clearcoats and topcoats are on the horizon.

The enviroCKote, a recyclable non-VOC process, provides substantial benefits to the environment while reducing costs and improving quality. The elimination of a secondary coating operation reduces handling and inventory, providing a cost advantage over the traditional process. The inherent quality benefits are enhanced adhesion, elimination of surface contamination, and superior surface quality.

The enviroCKote is an innovative solution that improves quality, benefits the environment and brings value to the industry.

The enviroCKote[™], a recyclable non-VOC process, provides substantial benefits to the environment while reducing costs and improving quality.

new sustainable initiatives and partnerships in 2009

solar

photovoltaic solar systems

Cascade Renewable Energy entered the solar market in 2009 as an integrator and installer of solar photovoltaic systems with one of the largest installation projects in Michigan at Padnos Iron and Metal Company in Wyoming, MI.



water

RainStore rainwater collection system

Cascade and NextLife collaborated on the design and engineering of the RainStore rainwater collection system, a 50 gallon container designed to be aesthetically appealing and highly functioning. The RainStore is made from 40% recycled resin.



manufacturing

Goodbyn™ lunchbox

Cascade collaborated with Byndoo on the engineering and manufacturing of the Goodbyn sustainable lunchbox. The Goodbyn is a sealed lunchbox container which eliminates the need for plastic baggies and juice containers, reducing waste and saving money. Byndoo is an eco-conscious product development company.



sourcing

Flute™ personal light

Cascade partnered with an industrial design team to bring an innovative LED concept to Herman Miller. The concept was adapted to meet Herman Miller's specific design and performance criteria and is now marketed as the Flute Personal Light, a 4.5 watt LED light that has 36% pre- and post-consumer content and is 85% recyclable.



economic capital

“ It is the strong culture of our company, and particularly our employees’ commitment to sustainability, that allowed us to further the investment in sustainable businesses and products in a tough economic environment. ”

Steve Peterson
Chief Financial Officer

A ground mounted, 8 kW solar photovoltaic system located at the Ford residence in Ada, MI.

cascade renewable energy

2009 was a year of growth for the Cascade Renewable Energy (CRE) group, as they continued to build a renewable energy portfolio focused on distributed energy. “Our objective is to be the leader in the distributed renewable energy field, bringing best in class wind and solar technologies to the market,” says Michael Ford, Business Leader for Cascade Renewable Energy. “We are actively building a robust national dealer network that will support our distributed energy product and channel strategy.”

CRE accomplished three major objectives in 2009 – commercializing the SWIFT Wind Turbine, entering the solar photovoltaic market, and expanding into the retail space. Development of the dealer network was one of the most critical initiatives of the year, ending with 35 dealers located in the Midwest, Northeast and West Coast.

CRE entered the solar market by installing one of the largest photovoltaic projects in Michigan at Padnos Iron and Metal Company – a grid-connected 149.6 kW photovoltaic (PV) system with 636 solar panels covering nearly 15,000 sq. ft of rooftop. The project was the outcome of a renewable portfolio standard mandating 10% of Michigan’s energy come from renewable sources by 2015. Consumers Energy Inc., a local utility, offered its customers a substantial premium to “buy back” solar generated power as an incentive to invest in renewable energy. Padnos made the investment at their recycling facility located in Wyoming, MI.

Expanding into the retail market, CRE partnered with the national big box retailer Lowe’s to develop an Energy Center concept which includes the SWIFT Wind Turbine as a specialty installed item. “This concept is being piloted in several Lowe’s stores in California, and we hope to see it expanded nationally. We are very excited to have this additional channel to market for our portfolio of products and to have our dealer network supporting these installations,” adds Michael Ford.

cascade top five

suppliers

Advantage Engineering
Exxon Chemical Canada
Sabic Innovative Plastics
Plastic Platers, LLC
Nova Chemical, Inc

customers

Navistar
Waste Management
Ford Motor Company
Freightliner
Herman Miller

charitable organizations

United Way
Junior Achievement
Fredrick Meijer Gardens
Grand Rapids Urban League
Goodwill Industries

Despite a tough economic environment, Cascade Engineering’s commitment to sustainability stayed the course.

In this section, we highlight three of our businesses that continued to increase their investment in a sustainable strategy. We also highlight our fiscal year 2009 measurements, which illustrate Cascade’s progress toward key sustainability metrics over the past 5 years.

Cascade Renewable Energy expanded its portfolio by entering the solar photovoltaic market and entering into the retail space.

CK Technologies tackled a tough year in the transportation industry with sustainable products and solutions that bring value to their customers.

Cascade Cart Solutions continued to embrace sustainability as a key strategy, resulting in increased growth and profitability.

a sustainable strategy drives growth in 2009

ck technologies

In a year in which the transportation industry was drastically affected by the economic crisis, CK Technologies (CKT) held steadfast to their mission – and in doing so got through a very tough economic year profitably.

CKT is dedicated to providing innovative, value-added solutions to the commercial truck and bus market by being focused on the industry, and providing solutions to their customers that are not only sustainable in and of themselves, but also enable sustainability in the end product.

In fiscal year 2009, CKT continued to listen to their customers' needs and brought sustainable solutions through product and technology leadership. "The launch of the enviroCKote™ technology has the potential to be a game changer in exterior coating applications in the truck and bus industry," says Mike Ellerman, Vice President of Technology and New Business Development of CKT. The enviroCKote technology, applied to the part during the molding process, is non-VOC and recyclable – a truly innovative product that is not only good for the environment but also brings value to the entire industry.

CKT continued to focus on making their customers' products more sustainable as well. Using injection molding technology, large exterior components can be made lighter weight and the aerodynamic performance of the truck can be improved – while using materials that are recyclable. The end result is a more fuel efficient vehicle with increased payload, and the components can be recycled at the end of their useful life. Working closely with Navistar, CKT contributed to the design of an innovative thermoplastic bumper and chassis skirt system for the ProStar® truck, resulting in improved aerodynamics and reduced system weight. The ProStar is one of the most fuel efficient Class 8 trucks on the market today.

"Sustainability is an important component of CKT's strategy to bring innovative solutions to the truck and bus market, and we look forward to continuing this important work," concluded Mark Miller, President of CKT.

cascade cart solutions

In fiscal year 2009, Cascade Cart Solutions' ongoing commitment to sustainability paid off, as they helped their customers to implement numerous single stream recycling programs throughout the country. Despite the economic crisis, Cascade Cart Solutions continued to embrace sustainability as a key strategy in their business and ended the year profitably.

"We gained a great deal of traction this year as we educated our entire staff around sustainability. Subsequently, we created momentum for our company through new customers and new partnerships that were formed because of our like-minded focus on sustainability," says Jo-Anne Perkins, General Manager of Cascade Cart Solutions. She adds, "Combining our passion for customer service and our belief in sustainability is a powerful formula for our business."

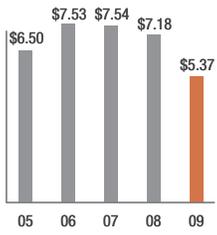
The results are clear – Cascade Cart Solutions continued to attract new customers and win new contracts throughout the year. Companies like Veolia Environmental Services became customers of Cascade Cart Solutions because of mutual alignment around sustainability as well as Cascade's ability to deliver. Numerous municipalities signed on with Cascade Cart Solutions to implement single stream recycling programs, even in areas where the trash pick up is not carted. Chicago, Miami Dade County, St. Louis County, South Bend and Sacramento are some of the municipalities that expanded their residential offering through implementation of single stream recycling programs. Cascade Cart Solutions was a key part of the implementation, providing the eco-friendly containers as well as assembly and distribution services.

Cascade Cart Solutions also continued to build on the EcoCart® and SmartCart® platforms through maximizing usage of co-injection and RFID technologies – enabling our customers to use containers with recycled content and to measure the success of their recycling programs.

Beyond the solid waste & recycling industry, Cascade Cart Solutions diversified into the retail market through partnerships with NextLife Solutions to manufacture the RainStore rain barrel and with Byndoo to manufacture the Goodbyn™ sustainable lunch box.

economic

taxes paid
(in millions)

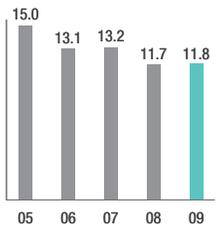


annual scorecard

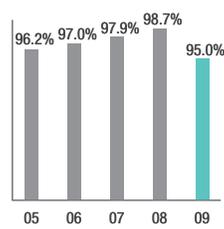
The data shown here is our annual scorecard, which illustrates Cascade's progress toward key sustainability metrics over the past five years. We use this data to measure the success of our sustainability initiatives and to shape future programs.

social

average hours of training
(per employee)



welfare to career retention
(monthly)

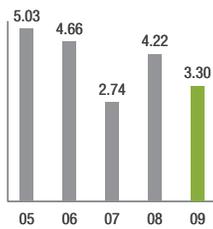


contributions
(in thousands)

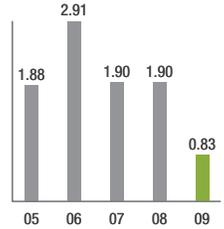


environmental and safety

incident rate



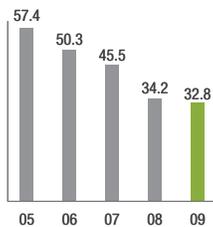
lost/restricted workday rate



sales dollars per kilowatt hour



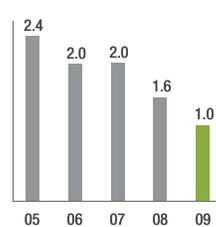
greenhouse gas emissions
(metric tons of CO2 equivalent in thousands)



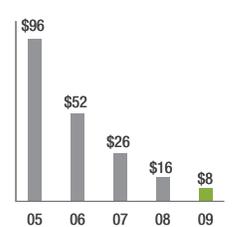
use of post consumer and industrial recycled material
(pounds in millions)



water consumption
(cubic feet per million)



waste to landfill
(in thousands)





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