

Federal-Mogul

CASE
SUMMARY

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FEDERAL-MOGUL IGNITION PRODUCTS

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The Company

Federal-Mogul Ignition Products produces over 500,000 sparkplugs per day under the brand name Champion®. The facility employs approximately 600 people working over three shifts in two main buildings. Federal-Mogul has a progressive environmental health and safety policy owing to its ISO certification and community awareness.

Incentives for Change

Federal-Mogul is both TS 16949 and ISO 14001 certified. An integral part of this certification is the continuous effort to identify areas of improvement, especially with regard to environmental stewardship. "Prevent Pollution" is the first goal in Federal-Mogul's Environmental Health and Safety Policy. The solid waste project was identified as an area for improvement. Generating waste that is not hazardous offers the benefit of financial savings in terms of reduced waste disposal and liability, but it could also reduce Federal-Mogul's status from a large quantity generator to a small quantity generator.

Results

1. Nickel waste reclamation

In 2004, Federal Mogul will dispose of approximately 260 tons of hazardous solid waste from the waste treatment of its nickel and zinc electroplating lines. Only the waste from the nickel plater is hazardous, contributing approximately 20 percent of the total waste treated. The nickel plating waste could be treated separately from the zinc plating waste by means of ion exchange or evaporation, which would allow recycling or reclamation of the waste. Most significantly, the remaining waste from the zinc plater would no longer be a categorical waste.



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2. Chromium precipitation

The wastewater from the zinc plater is not a categorical hazardous waste. By changing the chrome precipitation agent in wastewater treatment, the solid waste generated by the zinc plater will no longer have toxic characteristics.

3. Net results

Federal Mogul can save an estimated \$30,000 to \$40,000 annually by handling waste that is no longer hazardous. It also moves the business from large quantity toward small quantity generator status.

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