CASE SUMMARY

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# Rockwell-Collins

## ROCKWELL COLLINS, INC.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa (Linn County)

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### The Company

Rockwell Collins, Inc. is a world leader in the development and production of advanced communication and aviation electronics for the air transport and military markets. Headquarters are located in Cedar Rapids, with approximately 17,500 employees worldwide and annual sales of $2.5 billion.

### Project Background

Rockwell Collins, Inc. has a history of commitment and responsibility in pollution prevention ($P^2$) opportunities. Many formal programs are already in place, including waste reduction and recycling. The company has ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 certification.

### Incentives to Change

The Environmental Services Staff believed that significant cost savings and pollution prevention opportunities could be achieved if plating solution wastes could be managed more effectively. Specifically, the project focused on three areas of plating within the C Avenue facility in buildings 105,106, and 110.

### Results

Significant environmental benefits and cost savings can be achieved at the C Avenue facility of Rockwell Collins, Inc. by managing and preventing pollution at the numerous plating operations.

The first step was to understand the dynamics of each plating operation and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed Metal and Product and Machinery (MP&M) Rule. A water balance was completed after identifying, analyzing, and quantifying water use in the plating operations. Samples were collected at specific sites and analyzed by an outside laboratory. Current effluent metal levels were then compared to limits set by EPA's proposed MP&M Rule and metals that would require action in order to meet the proposed limits were determined. These metals were traced to individual tanks at each plating facility, where $P^2$ opportunities were recommended. Cost savings with each option were also calculated. The success-

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ful implementation of $P^2$ options should reduce the industrial discharge flow, the operating costs, the quantity of concentrated bath waste treated at the onsite industrial treatment plant, and the effluent metal concentrations.

The highlighted P2 options are presented in the following table:

Project Summary Table

| P2/Waste Reduction Option | Waste Reduced | Annual Water Saved (gallons/year) | Annual Cost Savings | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Flow Control | — | 120,000 | $300 | Implemented |
| 105 Upgrades | — | 35 Million | $85,000 | Recommended |
| 110 Upgrades | — | 125,000 | $50,000 | Recommended |
| Treatment | 900 gallons/day | — | $174,000 | Recommended |

If all opportunities are implemented, a total of over 35 million gallons of water will be conserved annually.