

Rushing – Carbon Footprint Case Study

Prepared by Sustainable Seattle (sustainableseattle.org)

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Rushing - An Overview

Rushing was founded to provide an alternative model to traditional consulting engineering practices. Their services include mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, sustainability consulting, building modeling and commissioning. www.rushingco.com

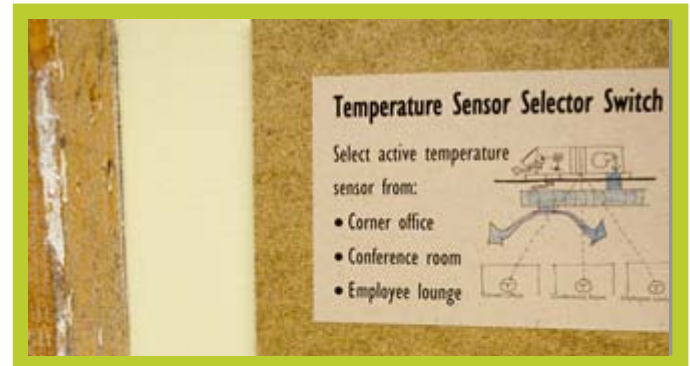
What They Did

A LEED Platinum renovation to the 1920s office has increased efficiency in the last two years. Additional attention to waste and purchasing has decreased their carbon output. To encourage workers to bike to work, they provide shower facilities and “Buddy the Scooter” as a shared office means to get to meetings downtown throughout the workday. Lastly, they employ a massage therapist monthly as a commitment to their work/life balance goals for the company.

Measured Outcome

Results of LEED Platinum renovation	
Water Usage Decrease	48%
Energy Usage Overall Decrease	38%
Daylight to work spaces	98%

Rushing is completing their own separate metering and monitoring of their energy usage to create a baseline for future comparisons.



How this affects Climate Change

By decreasing their energy output by various measures—such as relying on natural light instead of electrical, and reducing water needs, the company significantly cut its carbon output. Additionally, the company’s encouragement of commuting options other than driving to work reduces what is often a business’s largest contribution to CO₂ output.

Recommendations

- As renovations need to be made, work with LEED or sustainable designers to ensure your building can be more economically and energy efficient.
- Incorporate creative ways like “Buddy the Scooter” to encourage and make it easy for employees to think of alternate ways to commute to work while still being able to attend to their work obligations.
- Don’t forget to incorporate your employees’ wellness into planning for your company’s well-being.
- A monthly massage or other form of work/life balance will increase employee retention and foster greater commitment.

Information provided by SCP Green Teams

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