



Atlantis Industrial Area Waste Minimisation Club (2006)

CASE STUDY: WASTE MINIMISATION

AT BOKOMO BREAKFAST CEREALS

Bokomo has been an active member of the Atlantis Industrial Waste Minimisation Club (WMC) since March 2002. This involved training staff on Waste minimization (WM) and a prevention quick scan of the company utilizing WM principles. During 2003 a detailed water savings investigation was conducted to identify areas of improvement.

Why are they committed to the environment?

Bokomo breakfast cereals belongs to one of South Africa's largest food companies; Pioneer Foods. This company has integrated environment into their overall company policy. They are also NOSA accredited and have recently received the NOSA '5 star rating'. The company is committed to continuous improvement and is always looking at ways to increase efficiency.

What have they gained?

Since the inception of the WMCs the company has implemented numerous options that are economically and environmentally beneficial.

As a result of the water audit the company reduced the amount of water consumption by about 30%. This was done by reducing their sprinkling and irrigation of gardens. The company is now saving a massive 12000 Kl of water per annum. This is equivalent to the monthly consumption of 400 houses.

In 2002, a pilot was set up for a recycling project encouraging residents of Atlantis to recycle their waste. Recyclable waste was collected at the schools, separated and collected by a recycling company. The revenue for the collection of this waste was donated to the schools. Bokomo was also participating in this project by donating their carton waste. This has been a substantial contribution where the rebates have been donated to the schools.

This pilot proved to be successful and has been continued. During the past three years Bokomo has donated more than 138 tonnes of carton waste to the project diverting this waste from landfills.

Apart from the carton waste, different recyclables are collected from the site as well. These are collected together in one bin and separated at the plant of the waste collection company. The waste collected consists of plastics, paper and cloth used for drying hands. Figures are only available for the combined amount of these wastes and add up to an average of 900 kg per week. This equals a yearly average of 46,800 kg (47 tonnes). Bokomo has been able to increase their recycling rate to 74 %.

'Although we are doing very well and reducing our losses all the time we have realized there is still room for improvement. This has been due to the



assistance of outsiders who view things with a fresh perspective' *Clinton Mohamed, Assistant Plant manager of Bokomo Breakfast Cereals.*

Further recommendations included:

The company will be embarking on the following projects:

- Steam reduction assessment
- Integrating environment as part of the management system
- Investigation into Reducing losses further
- Reduce packaging losses