Centuries of Sustainability

Hudson’s Bay Company Archives, Archives of Manitoba
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- Smardt Chiller
- iControl

For additional information, please contact:
Rejean Saumure, Direct Energy Business Services,
(613) 203-2726, rejean.saumure@directenergy.com

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Products & Services Provided to HBC facilities across Canada:
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- National Preventative Maintenance Programs
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Proudly serving over 460 HBC facilities across Canada.
Founded in 1670 and based in Toronto, Ontario, the Hudson's Bay Company is a conglomerate that operates the Bay, a major department store; Zellers, a mass merchandise format; Home Outfitters, a kitchen, bed and bath specialty store, and value-priced Fields stores.

At the Hudson's Bay Company, our efforts are focused on key areas where we believe we can make a difference: environmental sustainability, energy consumption and the ethical sourcing of our products. Our story will be told in this issue of Building Strategies & Sustainability magazine highlighting how we run our business and how it benefits our associates, our customers and the environment in which we operate.

We’ve made great progress in reducing our environmental footprint such as eliminating unnecessary paper production by moving to paperless pay statements, continually monitoring energy consumption in our stores across the country and maintaining a “zero waste” status in our Simpson Tower office building in downtown Toronto since 2007.

Embracing sustainable business practices will remain a steadfast commitment for the Hudson’s Bay Company. It makes good business sense for us to do everything in our power as an organization to be socially and ethically responsible to ensure our stakeholders benefit.

I’m pleased to showcase our sustainable business practices, since I’m very proud of the progress the Company has made thus far and continues to make. I look forward to sharing our practices and progress with you in this publication.

Sincerely,
William Tracy
Senior Vice President, Supply Chain and Logistics
Hudson’s Bay Company and Lord & Taylor
Two centuries before Confederation a pair of resourceful Frenchmen named Radisson and des Groseilliers discovered a wealth of fur in the interior of the continent – north and west of the Great Lakes – accessible via the great inland sea that is Hudson Bay.

Despite their success, French and American interests would not back them. It took the vision and connections of Prince Rupert, cousin of King Charles II, to acquire the Royal Charter which, in May 1670 granted the lands of the Hudson Bay watershed to "the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson Bay."

Its first century of operation found Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) firmly ensconced in a few forts and posts around the shores of James and Hudson Bays. Natives brought furs annually to these locations to barter for manufactured goods such as knives, kettles, beads, needles, and blankets.

By the late 18th century competition forced HBC to expand into the interior. A string of posts grew up along the great river networks of the west foreshadowing the modern cities that would succeed them: Winnipeg, Calgary and Edmonton.

In 1821, HBC merged with its most successful rival, the North West Company based in Montreal. The resulting commercial enterprise now spanned the continent -- all the way to the Pacific Northwest (modern-day Oregon, Washington and British Columbia) and the North (Alaska, the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut). The merger also set the pattern of the company’s growth, being the first of a series of notable acquisitions.

The rise of retail
By the end of the 19th century changing fashion tastes contributed to the fur trade losing importance. Western settlement and the Gold Rush quickly introduced a new type of client to HBC -- one that shopped with cash and not with skins. Continued on page 7.
**1838** HBC’s depot at Charlton Island is used as a beaver preserve to rebuild the population. This operates until 1851.

**1930** Beaver in northern Quebec are disappearing and the Cree are starving as a result. Maud Watt, wife of Rupert House post factor Jimmy Watt, walks from Rupert House to Moosonee, then travels by rail to Quebec City to plead with the provincial government for the establishment of a beaver preserve to help the wild populations recover from over-hunting. She returns with a lease to over 7,200 square miles. The Cree of the Rupert House area agree to a moratorium on catching beaver within the preserve, giving the animals time to rebuild the population.

**1933** HBC takes over operating the Rupert House beaver preserve from the Watts.

**1951** An area consisting of 187,100 square miles is designated for 11 linked beaver reserves in Quebec alone. Others follow in Ontario and Manitoba. HBC has a hand in operating these.

**1972** In cooperation with Canadian Western Natural Gas in Alberta and Consumer’s Gas in Ontario, they became the first retail company in Canada to test a new delivery truck, one which ran on clean-burning natural gas instead of regular gasoline.

**1973** Worldwide energy crisis. HBC, through its subsidiary Hudson’s Bay Oil & Gas, meets the challenge by increasing oil and gas exploration in Canada in an effort to increase the local procurement of resources.

**1992** April 15: Zellers issues an Environmental Initiatives flyer that offers shoppers, among other things, a free, durable reusable, recyclable plastic bag or a cotton reusable shopping bag for 40,000 Club Z points.

**2000** HBC introduces its energy conservation program based on: decreased consumption; reduction in environmental impact; and engaging associates and customers in environmental awareness.

**2005** • HBC is the first retailer to be named a Power Smart Certified Customer by BC Hydro.
  • HBC launches a biodiesel pilot project for its fleet with participation of Transport Canada’s Freight Sustainability Demonstration Program. The test results exceed expectations and HBC expanded fuel use to other vehicles.

**2006** September: HBC introduces the Waste Diversion Kit. The goal is a 90-per cent waste diversion rate. Specific initiatives target shrink wrap, clean plastic packaging and bags, paper, plastic clothing hangers, corrugated cardboard, damaged merchandise, ink cartridges and fryer grease.
With the Deed of Surrender in 1870 between HBC and Canada, HBC yielded sovereignty over its traditional territories to the new country. The retail era had begun. The company’s focus began to shift as it concentrated on transforming trading posts into salessheds, stocked with a wider variety of goods than ever before. In 1912, following advice from one of its directors who was with Harrods department store in London, HBC began an aggressive modernization program. The resulting “original six” Hudson’s Bay Company department stores, in Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon and Winnipeg, are the legacy of this period.

Retail expansion across the country would finally be achieved by a series of strategic acquisitions: Cairns (Saskatoon: 1921), Morgan’s (Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto: 1960) and Freiman’s (Ottawa: 1972).

Diversification
The growth of retail spurred HBC into a wide variety of commercial pursuits. Liquor, canned salmon, coffee, tea and tobacco were all lines that supplemented traditional fur and retail and helped to establish a thriving wholesale business. Large holdings of land negotiated as part of the Deed of Surrender took the company into real estate. The sale of homesteads to newly-arrived settlers would later evolve into a full-scale interest in commercial property holdings and development. Shipping and natural resources, particularly oil and gas, were other important sidelines.

Focus on retail
In 1970, coincident with its 300th anniversary, HBC became a Canadian corporation. The pace of retail acquisition increased with takeovers of Zellers / Fields (1978), Simpsons (1978) and Robinson’s (1979). However, the economic downturn of the 1980s left the company with major debt and caused HBC to rethink its priorities and, like many other firms, return to its core business.

Non-strategic business assets such as the Fur Trade, Wholesale and Northern Stores departments were sold in 1987 as was the company’s last natural resources holding, Roxy Petroleum. Strategic expansion to strengthen its major debt and caused HBC to rethink its priorities and, like many other firms, return to its core business.

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Since then HBC has explored new shopping channels and ways of doing business. Club Z, the company’s first customer loyalty program, was launched in 1986. In 2001, it was superseded by HBC Rewards. Specialty arrived with the opening of Home Outfitters in 1999. Online shopping was introduced with the launch of hbc.com in 2000. And the off-price segment of the market was covered by Designer Depot / Style Depot, which operated from 2004 to 2008.

In 2003, HBC Signature, a private brand inspired by the company’s unique heritage, was introduced. And in 2005 HBC was chosen Premier National Partner of the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. The partnership, which runs from 2005 until 2012, makes HBC the Official Department Store Sponsor and General Merchandise Department Store Operator in Canada.

The 21st century finds HBC well into its fourth century of retailing in Canada. Its major retail channels -- the Bay, Zellers, Home Outfitters, and Fields -- together provide more than two-thirds of the retail needs of Canadians. Proof positive, if any were needed, of the aptness of HBC’s proud claim: “Canada’s merchants since 1670.”

2007
- Spring: Simpson Tower launches the Zero Waste Challenge. In September the Tower receives the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) GO GREEN designation. In October the tower receives a Platinum Award from the Recycling Council of Ontario. The tower works with Turtle Island Recycling and its tenants -- at this time primarily HBC -- to achieve its goals.
- Simpson Tower recognized as the first ZERO WASTE multi-tenant office tower in Canada thanks to HBC participation in the plan. The tower maintains this ranking for the next three years, with a 2009 diversion rate of 96.4 per cent.
- November: Zellers opens its greenest store yet. The 120,000-square foot store in Waterdown, Ontario has wind turbines and solar panels, a white roof to reflect heat and other water and energy conservation features. Zellers will introduce wind turbines and green energy in as many as five new stores in 2008.
- HBC launches GLOBAL MIND as a catch-all for all its corporate social responsibility initiatives -- including environmental sustainability.

2009
- March: Zellers launches its weekly flyer - for all of Canada except the west - printed on Eco gloss paper. This product is 100 per cent recycled waste and 7M of 9M printed each week mean huge environmental savings: trees, water, greenhouse gases, energy, waste and air pollution.
- Zellers serves Rainforest Alliance certified coffee in its cafeterias.

2010
- October 25: HBC recognized as 2010 Power Smart Leader by BC Hydro in the category of Leadership Excellence at the 2010 Power Smart Excellence Awards.
Given the Hudson’s Bay Company’s long and storied history with its close ties and reliance on Canada’s wilderness, it is no wonder that the venerable company is one of the leaders in sustainable practices among retailers in the country.

After all, HBC, which is Canada’s oldest department store has been well-served by the country over its 340-year history, and in return the company has taken very good care of the nation and its environment.

And in an odd coincidence, the company’s logo features four coloured bands behind its coat of arms with a green band across the top, perhaps serving as a subliminal nod to the importance of the environment.

It is no surprise then that HBC, which has more than 600 stores and retail outlets across the country operates under the recognizable banners of the Bay, Zellers and Home Outfitters, lists the environment as one of its key priorities in its most recent Corporate Social Responsibility report.

“At the Hudson’s Bay Company, our CSR efforts are focused on four key areas where we believe we can make a difference: our environment, our people, our communities, and in the ethical sourcing of our products. Our aim is to operate a successful company with minimal impact on our environment, while ensuring a positive effect on our people and our communities.”

Rudy Stewart, HBC’s manager of the energy portfolio, said sustainability is a prime concern within HBC as it establishes a baseline with which to work and provides “judgment as to how they are performing.”

“For companies that are successful and are reaching forward, sustainability has to be one of the pillars of how we do things,” said Stewart.

While it is done to fulfill our corporate social responsibility and to signal to our customers that our stewardship of what we use and what we purchase is first rate, it is just good business sense, I don’t know how you quantify it but there has to be some sort of benefit from retaining customers and attracting new customers from that position.”

Although HBC has always recognized its unique relationship with the environment it was not always able to pay it the close attention it wished as a series of ownership changes pushed the program down the list of priorities in favour of righting the ship and tending to the bottom line.

But with the company headed in the right direction once more, it is able to turn its attention to the issues of corporate responsibility and sustainability.

“Of course with different owners there are different priorities, but now that the current owners have been in place a while and have the company turned around and going in the right direction, sustainability has taken its rightful place again,” said Stewart.

And it shows in the company’s performance from an environmental perspective as the company has made great strides in reducing its impact on the environment and has received the recognition of its peers and energy providers through a number of awards in the process.

Perhaps some of the biggest strides which the company has taken across the chain are in the area of energy consumption. Through the use of clever programs, state-of-the-art automation systems, energy-efficient hardware and a corporate-wide belief in the cause, HBC has managed to significantly reduce its energy consumption numbers and in the process realize a tremendous financial savings.

One way in which it has seen a tremendous savings is by monitoring energy consumption in its stores with the use of building automation systems (BAS). BAS are store-level energy control systems connected to a central web-based monitoring and tracking station. Through these stations, its technicians monitor daily consumption and equipment failures and work with individual stores to minimize energy use.

Almost 90 per cent of its new and existing stores now have a BAS system installed; this is up from 69 per cent just five years ago.

The stores are also seeing a huge push towards energy-efficient lighting. To date, HBC has completed lighting retrofits at 84 per cent of its existing network of stores, up from just 67 per cent in 2005.

“Lighting retrofit has been an ongoing project and a major, major project for us,” Stewart said.

No lighting retrofits or BAS systems were added in 2009, however.

Peter Skubna, HBC’s manager of environmental enterprise operations, praises management for making a commitment to energy savings and realizing the need to spend money on projects like BAS and lighting retro-fits now to save money later.

“We are looking for a real push in 2011 getting back into it because for the last few years budgets have been cut,” he said. “The only way to do that is to spend dollars to retrofit the store so that you get better efficiencies. It was a matter of educating the new ownership on that. They have bought into that and it looks like in 2011 we will have some dollars to spend on projects again.”

Seeing the light

One innovative program across the chain is its “code orange” program. This scheme, which is mandatory for stores capable of it, controls the lighting in the stores.

Through the use of the BAS systems, 25 per cent of the lights within the stores are automatically turned off at any one time. For stores that don’t have the system, associates manually use breakers to approximate the 25-per cent reduction.

“It was a way of managing our energy consumption, but was also a way of generating some sort of excitement and comment from our customers who would ask questions about why the lights were out,” Stewart said. “But once they understand why the lights were out, the support was always there.”

This program resulted in an energy savings of 15 per cent in 2009, Stewart said.

Although Stewart said “it is now as permanent as it can be in any company,” it is not across all of the stores, as some do not have BAS in place. However, he adds, “we have the system in the overwhelming majority of our stores.”

The company has introduced “de-lamping” to its energy-savings line up as well. This involves manually removing one or two bulbs from each ceiling-mounted lamp fixture in the stores to achieve an energy reduction.

Although it took about 2.5 days to complete a two-floor store, the results were almost immediate and resulted in an annual savings of 10.6 per cent. And Stewart said concern about how the reduced lighting would affect the store and the presentation of its goods was quickly eliminated.

“The good news is that when we finished doing
Keeping cool
Maintaining a reasonable temperature in its buildings is also another way in which the company has saved money and reduced its energy consumption.

One way is to “deep cool” its stores. During non-store hours -- typically overnight and into the early morning -- the temperature of the stores is significantly reduced to about 65 degrees F.

The company also uses destratification fans in its warehouses to maintain a consistent temperature throughout the entire facility.

As heat rises “stratification” occurs, creating a temperature difference of between 10F to 15F or higher between the floor and the ceiling.

Destratification fans, which are huge down-draft fans, are used to bring the heat down from the ceiling to mix with cooler floor temperature air. Wasted heat that was trapped at the top of the building is dispersed throughout the building.

Stewart said the company has utilized destratification fans in a number of distribution centres, which has resulted in a savings of tens of thousands of dollars each year. His goal is to make sure that all the distribution centres utilize these fans to maximize the benefit of this process.

“That is just heat sitting there doing nothing. By bringing that down you don’t have to reheat all of that air that goes through the building,” he said. “It’s almost like finding heat in one sense.”

Through Stewart’s persistence, the company has also utilized innovative lighting in its stores. The Zellers store, for example, was designed and manufactured it comes with high efficiency and low maintenance costs against the old style … it was win-win all around.”

Waterdown project
HBC made a bold move in 2007 when it decided to open what it billed as its “Greenest Zellers ever” in Waterdown, Ontario. This store, the company described at the time, “featured a variety of progressive elements that will minimize the store’s impact on the environment, while serving as a ‘proving’ ground for eco-friendly initiatives that could be included in other HBC stores in coming years.”

The store, located about an hour southwest of Toronto, included two windmills, capable of generating enough electricity to power a house; solar panels to power recycling compactors and help light the store; a white roof to reflect and disperse heat; energy recovery ventilators to control air quality for customers and reduce the store’s demand for energy; heating, ventilating and air conditioning units, which use no ozone depleting refrigerants; waterless urinals and touchless faucets, to reduce water use; a kitchen exhaust motion-sensor system to reduce energy consumption used by ventilating fans; and pressure relief assembly to control air quality in the store.

The Zellers store also features a fully-automated energy management system that is controlled remotely by HBC’s head office. The system allows for central control over such things as the timing of indoor and outdoor lights, temperature control, CO2 reduction, humidity control, electricity consumption and remote lighting.

Since then, the company has opened three other stores with similar features to the original Waterdown store including one Bay store.

“Even though it is not a big store, it has drawn some attention to us,” Skubna said. “We were leaders, especially in energy reduction and experimenting with different types of lighting, and solar panels and wind panels.”

Skubna said the project gave them the opportunity to build a store from the ground up -- something the company is not usually able to do as most of its stores are in older buildings and malls.

“We learned enough. There weren’t any major surprises because, although we did do some innovative things there, we didn’t go as far as maybe we could have. That’s probably from taking a hard look at it the beginning rather than trying anything and everything,” he said.

Company-wide commitment
Stewart’s enthusiasm for his job and the sustainability initiatives resonates as he discusses the company and he wants this spill over to the 50,000 associates across the country as well.

“We are very motivated and gung-ho on sustainability and energy conservation, which is my area. And one of the things that I am working on right now is a more direct way of engaging our associates in the stores, he said. “I want to include our associates in the stores and make them advocates of energy conservation.”

Among Stewart’s plans is to appoint a representative from each store to serve as a liaison with the head office. He also wants each store to compete with the other stores to give associates targets and motivation to compete against other stores.

“Without the building users being part of your energy program you are going to have a really tough time meeting any of your challenges,” Stewart said.

Hudson’s Bay Company has vowed to continue sustainable business and has committed itself to programs that reduce its ecological footprint.

“We are again on the road in the right direction. We are now doing quite well. There has been a resurgence within the company in terms of our energy spend or how we manage our business from a sustainability perspective. We cannot look short-term; we have to look long-term,” Stewart said.
ZERO WASTE
Hudson’s Bay Company takes green programs to heart

When the government of the most populated province in Canada chooses to highlight one of your green initiatives, you must be doing something right for the environment.

That was the case for the Hudson’s Bay Company when Ontario’s Ministry of the Environment praised its “Zero Waste” program in an environmental case study.

The recognition came after HBC’s Simpson Tower office building in downtown Toronto became the first office tower in Canada to be certified as “zero waste” by Zero Waste International Alliance in 2007. This was followed by a third-party audit performed by C.D. Sonter Environmental Consultants.

A company receives the “zero waste” designation when it has diverted 90 per cent of all materials from its waste. The company achieved this with an impressive 95-per cent rating, including a diversion rate of 97.5 per cent in 2008.

The company maintained this designation again in 2009 following another audit, marking the third consecutive year of zero waste. It recycles some 306 tonnes of material annually.

This prompted the Ontario ministry to feature the office tower in a case study. “The Simpson Tower Canada’s First Zero Waste Office Tower,” outlined the goal, how it was achieved and the final outcome.

HBC’s two other office buildings are currently running the same program as its downtown Toronto location.

“It was something we looked at and we wanted to do. It was a challenge and we took it on to see if we could do it,” said Peter Skubna, HBC’s manager of environmental enterprise operations. “Once we realized we could do it, we have been going with it ever since.”

A national goal
HBC piloted a zero waste program in seven of its stores, which resulted in a 95-per cent diversion rate.

The company now runs the program, with the help of Turtle Island Recycling, in almost 20 stores in the Greater Toronto Area with an eye to expanding the program across the country.

The program aims to recycle all cardboard, paper, plastic, metal and wood waste generated through store operations. Also, any stores that operate a restaurant, or sells fresh foods through a neighbourhood market are running a program in which organics are sent to a composting facility.

Skubna said the enthusiasm of the employees has made it easy to implement and maintain the program.

“They love the program. They have realized that at the end of the day they are doing a great thing for the environment,” he said.

Meanwhile, across the whole company, HBC has diverted 58 per cent of all material from landfills in 2009, up from 54 per cent in 2003.

GHG Emissions
In 2009, HBC also switched to an electronic pay delivery service from its previous paper-based system resulting in the elimination of about 1.3 million pieces of paper being produced and distributed every two weeks. It also turned to electronic distribution of its associate communications, further eliminating paper use.

In order to better understand its environmental footprint, HBC tracks seven sources of Green House Gas Emissions: natural gas, propane, transportation (truck fleet), oil, electricity, steam, and chilled water.

Using 2000 as its baseline year, HBC reduced its emissions by 24 per cent by the end of 2009. This reduction came as a result of retrofits to existing stores, construction of energy-efficient new stores and the use of innovative technologies such as deep-lake water cooling.

The company recorded the program in its "2009 GHG Emissions, Water Consumption and Fuel Efficiency Report," which was published by a third party energy consultant and uses the reporting to track its success.

“HBC uses this reporting to ensure we are moving in the right direction to reduce the environmental footprint of our physical operations,” the company said in its most recent Corporate Social Responsibility report.

“Also, by having the report prepared by a third party, we believe this adds further credibility to our commitment to continually improve in this area.”

Packaged goods
Although in its infancy, HBC is also taking a hard look at its policies regarding packaging with the aim of not only reducing the amount of wrapping used on its goods, but also to encourage its suppliers to reduce as well.

HBC recently hired a packaging engineer to help its private label group assess the concern and it also plans to purchase an add-on for a software program which will allow vendors to go on line and enter packaging data.

“No targets have been set yet. We are still in the infancy of this and are still trying to get it all figured out,” said Skubna. “We would like to set goals going forward, but we have to get our heads around what’s there and what is feasible for reduction in packaging.”

Skubna does not deny that the company’s sustainable push is motivated by the economic benefits as much as by altruism. After all he knows, like others, that environmentally conscious customers will vote with their wallets if they are unhappy with a company’s green policies.

“Sustainability is increasingly important to the company. As customers become more aware of issues out there, they tend to gravitate to retailers and companies that are doing business the way they want,” he said.

“Let’s face it, it’s increasingly important to run your operations in a way that has less impact on you financially, which generally, doing things in a sustainable manner does.”
Direct Energy Business Services Limited has been a long-time HVAC services provider for the vast network of Hudson’s Bay Company store facilities in Canada. Through the implementation of Direct Energy’s innovative energy management solutions, we have helped the Canadian retail giant meet its annual commitment goals in carbon footprint reduction. Some of the 2010 energy efficiency upgrades implemented by Hudson’s Bay Company in Canada were the installation of 8 Smardt Chillers, the replacement of 60 inefficient and aged rooftop units with high efficiency units, and the upgrade of many heating systems to high efficiency condensing boilers. The 60 new rooftop units will yield an expected demand savings of 66 kilowatts with an annual savings of 91,000 kilowatt hours, while the expected demand and annual savings from the 8 Smardt Chillers will be 430 kilowatts and 1,310,000 kilowatt hours respectively.

The Smardt Chillers (Canadian manufactured oil free, magnetic bearing centrifugal chiller) were the first chillers in the HVAC industry with magnetic bearing technology that used an oil-free centrifugal compressor and used the non-ozone depleting Refrigerant 134a. With an ultra low power start up of just 2 amps, the centrifugal compressor performs at an outstanding .34 kw/ton versus the .8 kw/ton of the replaced technology. Its oil-free technology meant less maintenance, no oil disposal, leakage, or oil spill potential, which has greatly reduced the total operating and maintenance costs for the Hudson’s Bay Company.

In addition to the mechanical equipments retrofit projects to reduce energy consumption, Direct Energy and HBC are also working together on a Demand Reduction program that consists of managing the scheduling of parking lot lights, the on and off times of the store lighting equipment, cooling and heating set back, as well as holiday and inventory time shifts in all of the HBC retail stores through Direct Energy’s Building Automation System. As the technical support and call center for providing proactive services to HBC head office on the Building Automation System, the iControl Center at the DE office in Ottawa helps decrease downtime through remote troubleshooting, improves services diagnostics, reduces operating and energy costs, improves staff maximization and training between facilities, provides seamless integration of all key facility systems and control devices, and reduces comfort complaints from tenants and employees. The iControl Center is also responsible for managing the After Hours Emergency Service call process to ensure emergency service work requests are addressed immediately and recorded in a timely manner, providing daily report with comprehensive details relating to the emergency service call requests, extensive monitoring, reporting and alarm capabilities, energy management and control strategies, support of open standard communication protocols such as BACnet and LON, and accurate Direct Digital Control of building systems. The combination of Building Automation Systems and iControl Center provides maximization of energy performance for the HBC store facilities while maintaining an optimal comfort level for the HBC employees and customers.

The annual Preventative Maintenance Program that Direct Energy performs for the HBC stores includes the scheduled maintenance visits by trained and qualified technicians that provide filter change to ensure maximum level of energy efficiency of the heating and cooling systems. The Preventative Maintenance Program is custom tailored to the business and HVAC equipments of HBC store facilities and are designed to greatly minimize breakdown of equipments, and resolving small problems before they become much large and expensive. The results of efficient equipment replacements, upgrading BAS systems, managing schedules and service call responses while performing proper maintenance procedures are the reasons HBC has been able to reduce its carbon footprint to meet its annual energy saving goals.
Ge Lighting

As part of Ecoimagination, GE is committed to helping companies improve their environmental performance with complete Linear Fluorescent Lamp (LFL) system solutions that meet RoHS compliance prior to government mandates. With industry leading environmental system solutions, GE has a full line of LFL products for virtually any facility's needs. With changing environmental laws and circumstances, navigating your environmental strategy can be a tough process. That's why GE has local specialists available to help any organization reach their energy -saving goals.

In support of HBC's continuing efforts to conserve energy costs, GE is proud to be a part of a nation-wide energy efficiency strategy with one of Canada's major retail chains. Our efforts to date have generated an estimated $200,000 over the past year with upgrading their retail ceiling space across Canada to 4’ T8 Ecoulux 25 watt lamps, providing long lamp life while curbing its environmental impact.

GE Consumer & Industrial spans the globe as an industry leader in lighting and integrated industrial equipment, systems and services. GE uses innovative technologies and “ecomagination,” a GE initiative to aggressively bring to market new technologies that help customers and consumers meet pressing environmental challenges.

For more information on our industry leading energy efficient products, please visit www.gelighting.com

Turtle Island

“Hbc Zero Waste Single Stream Recycling Program” & Turtle Island Recycling

In 2007 Hudson's Bay Company began their quest to become a Canadian business leader in environmental sustainability by initiating a plan to strive for zero waste to landfill in their retail locations. With support from HBC Corporate Offices, HBC enlisted the help of their associates, customers and vendors such as Turtle Island Recycling to reach their goals.

HBC started by performing audits of the waste streams of several HBC and Zellers Retail stores. These audits provided an opportunity for HBC to learn exactly what they were sending to landfills. What was found was startling; a significant percentage of material found within the waste stream could be easily captured for recycling.

HBC capitalized on this opportunity by transforming their recycling program to divert more materials. The recycling compactors were utilized to the fullest. Recyclable materials such as cardboard, clothes hangers and shrink wrap were compacted in such a way by associates that a sandwich effect was created which allowed for easy separation when received at Turtle Island Recycling’s recycling facility. By encouraging recycling among staff, garbage was minimized so much that there was no longer a need for a waste compactor.

Another key factor in eliminating their waste compactor was encouraging the use of an organics diversion stream. Staff embraced the new program used to capture all compostable material generated and HBC realized higher rebates from Turtle Island for their recyclables because organics diversion allowed for easier and cleaner collection of the other recyclable items generated and HBC realized higher rebates from Turtle Island for their recyclables because organics diversion allowed for easier and cleaner collection of the other recyclable items generated.

Stratification within the facility was causing personnel discomfort and was sending heating and cooling costs soaring. Since the installation of the Altra-Air fans, stratification within the facility has been virtually eliminated while consuming substantially less energy than if traditional high speed fans had been installed.

Altra-Air fans offer a wide variety of benefits and advantages to the facility including quiet and efficient operation, a greater reduction in recovery time after the overhead doors have been opened. Also provides a constant temperature from floor to ceiling and wall to wall. These HVLS fans are virtually maintenance free which in turn reduces maintenance and operation costs and provides year round climate control and energy savings as they present a warming effect in the winter and a cooling effect in the summer.

Energy saving partners, Envira-North Systems Ltd. and HBC, continue to make energy conservation and efficiency a top priority on a daily basis. HBC is currently considering expanding the use of Altra-Air fans to provide savings and comfort to other Logistics Centres and in other areas of various retail locations.

Enwave

Enwave, Canada’s largest district energy utility, is committed to providing environmentally friendly, sustainable, and cost effective heating and cooling to all of its customers. Our colleagues at HBC have the vision and foresight to use Enwave’s high efficiency central steam heating system, and our world renowned Deep Lake Water Cooling service to satisfy all the air conditioning needs of HBC’s flagship Queen St. store in Toronto. Enwave would like to thank HBC for its years of service, and dedication to Enwave’s triple bottom line of social, environmental, and fiscal responsibility.