Posty Cards Expansion Project

Project Description:
This new 45,000-square-foot facility features the largest solar photovoltaic panel installation in the Kansas City region, generating more than 11 percent of the facility’s total power use. The facility is also equipped with solar-heated water; high-efficiency variable volume HVAC; active lighting controls’ rain water reclamation for irrigation and flushing toilets; a water retention basin; rain gardens to mitigate stormwater runoff; and native plant landscaping.

Natural lighting is used throughout the building. The manufacturing plant has multiple skylights and is situated around a courtyard with floor to ceiling windows. Finishing materials and fixtures throughout the building, from low-VOC paints to waterless urinals, were selected with sustainability in mind. Posty Cards Inc., will furnish the building with as much previously used furniture as possible. The facility is also Green-e Certified with 10 percent of the electricity used company-wide offset by renewable wind power.

Goals:
With a primary goal of staying in Kansas City and growing the family-owned and operated business, in late 2009 the company set out to enlarge its facility. With the expansion, the company will have space to increase its workforce by more than 50 percent and continue to provide jobs in the heart of the city. The company is seeking LEED Platinum Certification which could make it the first manufacturing plant in the U.S. to earn this top sustainability rating.

Community Benefits:
The expansion of the Posty Cards, facility benefits the community by doubling the company’s space, not its carbon footprint. The new facility will boost production, provide new jobs and increase exports all while modeling energy efficiency.

Funding Sources:
Many resources are available to help small, privately held businesses achieve sustainability in the workplace. Financing for the project was made possible through collaboration with federal, state and local partners. By taking advantage of all incentives and grants that were available, the company was able to uphold high environmental standards and complete the entire project in one phase.

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