Idaho’s 3 state research universities work in collaboration through the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Energy Efficiency Research Institute (CEERI).

Industrial Assessment Center

Database

Certain information for 15,000 assessments conducted over the last 30 years is available in a database on the web at iac.rutgers.edu. Some of the resources available include:

- Typical savings for assessments in different industries
- Individual recommendations made for each assessment
- Rates of implementation of various recommendations
- Sorting by company size, geographical area, or cost of energy
- Implementation costs and paybacks for industrial energy projects
- Manuals and other technical documents

Contact us:
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IACs train the next generation of energy-savvy engineers through hands-on industrial experience. Assessments are in-depth evaluations of a facility conducted by students from participating universities led by experienced engineering faculty.

The IAC program has conducted over 15,000 assessments since the program’s start in 1976. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) currently supports 24 centers based at universities across the country.

Program Benefits
- Since the program is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy, there is no cost to eligible manufacturers.
- Clients receive objective information to help make their plants more energy efficient, more productive, and cleaner.
- On average, implemented IAC assessment recommendations save a plant over $55,000 per year with paybacks within 12 to 18 months.
- With relationships throughout Idaho and beyond, the IAC can make referrals to appropriate resources to help with implementation.
- Plants are under no obligation to implement any recommendations.

Client Eligibility
Potential clients include small and mid-sized manufacturing plants with Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes 20-39 or North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes 31-33.

In addition, clients must meet three of the following four criteria for the applicable plant site:
- Annual sales under $100 million
- Fewer than 500 employees
- Annual energy bills over $100,000 but less than $2 million
- No in-house energy professional to perform an assessment

Because IAC teams are located at all 3 Idaho universities, plants throughout Idaho and in surrounding states within about 150 miles of a host campus may be eligible.

Assessment Process & Timeline
- Screening—The first step is screening to be sure a potential client meets DOE guidelines. The process and responsibilities are discussed and the assessment is scheduled.
- Pre-Assessment Analysis—Preliminary data about the facility and its utility usage is collected and analyzed. This analysis is completed about 2 weeks prior to the site visit.
- Site Visit—The IAC team conducts a one-day site visit to study the manufacturing process and make energy, waste, and productivity-related measurements using diagnostic equipment.
- Report—Within 60 days of the site visit, the IAC team submits a confidential report to the plant detailing the team’s analysis and money-saving recommendations, along with estimates of related costs, performance, and payback periods.
- Follow-Up—About six months after the assessment, the IAC team contacts the plant manager to determine which, if any, of the recommended measures have been implemented. The implementation rate helps to measure the IAC program’s success.

Industrial Assessment Centers are part of a portfolio of activities at the US DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy which can benefit small and medium sized industry.