

CASE STUDY



Weyerhaeuser's Kenora TimberStrand®

Weyerhaeuser

Weyerhaeuser's Kenora TimberStrand® facility has been in operation for nearly 12 years and, in that time, has seen significant fluctuations in the fortunes of the wood products industry. The fact that the facility is still operational (especially since many of its sister mills and competitors have been shut down) highlights its ability to reduce waste and to manage its resources in a responsible and sustainable manner.

The ISO 14001 compliant facility efficiently converts an underutilized forest species (trembling aspen) into a superior structural lumber product – LSL (Laminated Strand Lumber). Its triple Chain of Custody certification (SFI/PEFC/FSC) ensures that raw materials are harvested in a sustainable manner. By maintaining vigilance through all areas of the facility, approximately 97.75 per cent of the raw wood is converted into product or used to produce energy. Only 2.25 per cent ends up in landfill and the ash is used to stabilize its sewage sludge, and other wood residuals are used for landfill cover. Since the city uses the ash and wood residuals, it charges a significantly reduced tipping fee (50 per cent) for ash and pays all of the costs associated with hauling and using the wood residuals at its landfill.

The facility places a large emphasis on waste reduction and reducing costs to stay in business. The facility operates both a Blue Box and industrial recycling program that diverts approximately 136,000 kg per year. It also maintains a five-year Waste Management Plan that annually reviews every waste stream to determine if better ways to manage them can be found and implemented. This includes solid non-hazardous, hazardous, and liquid industrial wastes. Since 2010 the facility has managed to reduce its unit cost of managing waste by just over 14 per cent (from \$36.74 to \$31.53/1,000 ft³ of production). The employees, management, and corporate infrastructure place a high priority on maintaining a sustainable and environmentally sound industry. Every employee must complete a waste management training module prior to working in the plant and a module (including a written test) that reviews the facility's Waste Audit and Waste Reduction Work Plan.

In 2010 the facility implemented its Energy Management Plan and has reduced its overall energy consumption by approximately 275,000 gigajoules annually. Several Energy Conservation Measures for reductions in biomass, electricity, natural gas, propane, and diesel consumption have been completed since the implementation. These ECMs have allowed the facility to reduce its annual CO₂ emissions by nearly 24 per cent and its energy intensity (energy consumption per unit of production) by almost 21 per cent to the end of 2012. Direct savings are to the order of \$800K per year plus utility incentives and government rebates that can push that number closer to \$2.5M per year.

For more information visit: <http://www.weyerhaeuser.com/sustainability/>

