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The Engineering Economist >

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Original Articles

# The Economic Benefits of Green Buildings: A Comprehensive Case Study

Robert Ries, Melissa M. Bilec, Nuri Mehmet Gokhan & Kim LaScola Needy

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25%;

statistically significant absenteeism results varied; and energy usage decreased by about 30% on a square foot basis. Considering all aspects, the economic analysis showed that the company made the correct decision to build a new green facility.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors thank the University of Pittsburgh's Mascaro Sustainability Initiative (MSI) for their support of this project. MSI is aimed at initiating and nurturing research and education in the research thrust areas of green construction and sustainable water use. We appreciate the support and help of Castcon Stone Inc. as our case study. Castcon is one of the leading pre-cast concrete manufacturers in the United States. We also thank Pittsburgh's Green Building Alliance and the architectural firm Perkins Eastman.

## Notes

- <sup>1</sup>New and old facility based on square foot comparison. There is one utility meter for both office and plant

<sup>1</sup>Total abatement cost including compensation.

<sup>1</sup>The rate of production was reduced 75%

<sup>2</sup>The rate of production was reduced 25%

<sup>3</sup>The production rate was increased to 180 pounds per hour

<sup>4</sup>The production rate was increased to 180 pounds per hour

<sup>1</sup>Center for Environmental and Workplace Health

<sup>2</sup>Center for Environmental and Workplace Health

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