



## Pfizer Freiburg Recognized for Leading Sustainability Program



The Pfizer Global Supply Facility in Freiburg, Germany

Located in one of Germany's sunniest and greenest cities, the Pfizer Global Supply (PGS) facility in Freiburg produces more than 230 million packages a year. This site distributes medicines that help combat cardiovascular diseases, alleviate pain, and help treat epilepsy to patients across the globe.

Since the 1990s the PGS site has followed what has become in the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry a globally renowned green strategy called the Energy Master Plan. Intended to vigorously protect the environment and conserve resources, the plan comprises a variety of elements, including a comprehensive energy management system, greener manufacturing processes and more sustainable packaging.

More than 250 eco-friendly and energy-saving measures have been implemented through the plan. In addition, some very aggressive goals for carbon neutrality and renewable energy have been set. For instance, 91 percent of the facility's energy demand is covered with renewable sources and it aims to increase that to 95 percent. Further, it plans to reduce its carbon emissions to 650 tons annually, with the eventual goal of becoming carbon neutral.

Modern systems powered by innovative technologies outperform earlier models. An important aspect of the Freiburg program is providing heat, cold, and compressed air more efficiently and with less energy. This includes mixing photovoltaic, geothermal, and biomass energy sources and heat recovery systems, such as:

- Geothermal systems that cool offices in summer and heat them in winter
- Solar screens and optimum thermal insulation that conserve several million kilowatt-hours of energy every year

A wood-pellet heating system reduces fossil fuel consumption and the plant's carbon footprint. It also produces about 85 percent of the steam and heat necessary to keep the humidity and temperatures in the manufacturing facilities and labs constant. In the first year of operation, the wood pellets produced 5,000 fewer tons of CO<sub>2</sub> than fossil fuels would have. When these pellets burn they release only the amount of climate gases previously stored in the trees. Investments in environmental protection not only pay an ecological dividend, but an economic one as they also save up to a half million euros a year.

The Freiburg site stands as a beacon of sustainability with its many green initiatives. The facility has been the recipient of several honors for its sustainable drug-production practices. Out of 26 projects from 11 countries considered, the Freiburg facility was awarded the Facility of the Year 2011 in the Sustainability category by the International Society for Pharmaceutical Engineering (ISPE). The facility was also selected by a jury of business, labor, public and environmental officials for the state of Baden-Württemberg's Environmental Award for industrial environmental protection and corporate governance.

The Energy Master Plan is a real-world example of the commitment, drive, and dedication the facility's staff of 1,000 shares to improving processes. Together they are brainstorming new ideas, sparking positive change and making the company more competitive.