

Energy Department Highlights Nissan's Better Plants Challenge Showcase Project in Tennessee

New Smyrna energy-saving paint plant is a showcase project for DOE's Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge

Washington, D.C. April 17, 2013– As part of the Obama Administration's all-of-the-above approach to American energy, the Department of Energy (DOE) is touring Nissan's new Smyrna, Tennessee paint plant on April 17 to recognize the cost savings possible for manufacturing facilities that adopt energy efficiency measures and upgrades. Nissan's Smyrna paint plant opened on Jan. 22, 2013 and is projected to cut energy use by almost a third compared to its predecessor. Nissan is showcasing this project through its participation in the [Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge](#) -the industrial component of the President's Better Buildings Challenge. Launched in December of 2011 by President Obama, the Better Buildings Challenge is a national leadership program that calls on corporate chief executives, university presidents, and state and local governments to reduce energy use in their facilities by 20 percent by 2020 and share their energy saving solutions and results.

DOE QUOTE

"Nissan is committed to increasing energy efficiency as we reduce the environmental impact of manufacturing high quality vehicles sold in North America," said Susan Brennan, Nissan's vice president of manufacturing in Smyrna. "These efforts align with our global commitment to zero emission vehicle leadership and corporate social responsibility to employees, stakeholders and our customers."

Commercial buildings and industrial plants in the U.S account for roughly half the nation's energy use, and produce more than 40 percent of the country's carbon emissions. The goal of DOE's Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge is to overcome market barriers and persistent obstacles with replicable, marketplace solutions, driving 20 percent greater energy efficiency in commercial and industrial buildings by 2020.

The Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge supports industrial building owners by providing technical assistance and facilitating communications on best practices between Challenge partners. Participating organizations are improving their competitiveness by reducing energy waste and saving money on their utility bills through energy efficiency measures, such as whole facility energy system improvements, compressed air upgrades, innovative energy recovery projects, submetering initiatives, and new facility construction that makes energy efficiency a key design consideration.

More than 110 organizations, including more than 300 manufacturing plants, have joined the Better Buildings Challenge. Together, partner organizations represent two billion square feet of

building space and have committed almost \$2 billion to support energy efficiency improvements in buildings nationwide.

As a partner with DOE in the Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge, Nissan North America has committed to reducing energy use in its three U.S. plants 25 percent by 2020, affecting 12 million square feet of plant space. According to Nissan's projections, the new 250,000 square-foot footprint Smyrna paint plant is capable of reducing energy use and carbon emissions by 30 percent. This effort is part of Nissan's broader global environmental initiative, the Nissan Green Program 2016, which focuses on reducing environmental impacts of corporate activities and pursuing harmony between resource consumption and ecology by promoting and widening the application of innovative green technologies, energy management and fuel-efficient vehicles.

For more information please visit the [Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge website](#).

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