SUCCESS STORY: ACQUISITIONS AND PROCUREMENT

Argonne’s Sustainability Program works across the laboratory to support the purchase of goods and services that are both cost effective and environmentally sensitive.

These efforts address the Department of Energy’s goals for sustainable acquisition and procurement, which is defined as acquiring goods and services to create and maintain benefits in energy security, environment, health, and economic longevity for future generations.

Argonne’s goal is for products and services to be energy-efficient, water-efficient, bio-based, environmentally preferable, and non-ozone depleting, and to contain recycled content and non-toxic or less-toxic alternatives. Argonne actively tracks sustainable acquisition and procurement and works to improve efforts each year.

In fiscal year 2017 (FY 2017), out of the approximately $500,000 of items purchased through the Argonne Materials Ordering System (AMOS), 40% of these ordered items had recycled content. AMOS provides “just-in-time” ordering for thousands of items to support office, operations, and maintenance activities. Recycled content was most prevalent in the office supplies category, where the 85% of items purchased contained recycled content.
SUCCESS STORY: ACQUISITIONS AND PROCUREMENT

In addition to recycled content, Argonne used AMOS to purchase large-quantity items to support operations and services. These products had green certifications from Energy Star, Water Sense, Green Seal, GREENGUARD, Sustainable Forest Initiative (SFI), and Safer Choice.

Argonne’s Sustainable Acquisition efforts also improve purchases of materials to manage Argonne’s 1,500 acres of natural resources. To support bio-based and environmentally preferred objectives, Argonne will use seeds that were locally grown and harvested to improve habitats around the site.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT—LOM LIGHTING CONTROLS UPGRADE

Argonne implemented lighting and controls upgrades at three laboratory and office modules (LOMs) at the Advanced Photon Source in FY 2017. This addressed energy efficiency with the installation of approximately 2,000 light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures in addition to T-8 lamps, sensors, and controls. The newly installed light fixtures are equipped with technology that incorporates integrated ambient and occupancy sensing and wireless communication to achieve energy savings and extended product life, resulting in lower electricity bills, reduced maintenance, and a lower total cost of ownership compared to traditional lighting control systems. The LOM improvements were designed to comply with the guiding principles for High Performance Sustainable Buildings.

Argonne’s Procurement and Requisition Integrated System (PARIS) also tracks recycled content. This system is used to order products, supplies, and services from outside contractors and vendors. In FY 2017, Argonne spent approximately $2,400,000 on goods and services that contained recycled content. The top five categories in the PARIS system for recycled content are:

1. **Newsprint**: 100% of dollars spent.
2. **Packing Drums, Industrial (Steel, Plastic, or Fiberboard)**: 96% of dollars spent.
3. **Furniture, Office**: 84% of dollars spent.
4. **Signs, Advertising Displays**: 99% of dollars spent.
5. **Furniture and Fixtures**: 96% of dollars spent.