



Salt River Project Waste Diversion Program

THE PROBLEM How can a large organization maximize waste diversion, increase the amount of waste materials that are recycled and reduce the negative environmental impact caused by a landfill?

THE CLIENT Salt River Project

THE SERVICE Waste characterization study for two Salt River Project buildings, including recommended solutions, cost-effective technologies, best practices and cost-benefit analysis.

THE SOLUTION By evaluating the total waste sort across six samples (3,300 pounds of total waste from the two facilities that included paper, supplies and food scraps), six solutions were suggested for three primary types of waste to assist SRP in increasing the company's waste diversion:

- **Food Waste:** Implementation of food waste capture, a dehydrator system plus an organic composting program, employee education.
- **Compostable Paper Waste:** Elimination of paper towel waste and reduced greenhouse gas impact through installation of energy efficient hand dryers.
- **SBBM (Standard Blue Bin Materials):** Increased diversion through a system of Resource Centers, employee engagement and education and improved supply chain efficiency.

THE OUTLOOK If Salt River Project implements all solutions recommended by the Sustainability Solutions Services team, in ten years they will divert an additional 1.7 million pounds of waste and mitigate 79 metric tons of CO₂ emissions. These solutions would add \$115,000 in combined savings and revenue to the organization's bottom line over the same ten-year period.

“By improving the waste diversion rate of a large public utility like Salt River Project, this program will not only save money but also raise the environmental standard of living of the citizens of Phoenix and the entire central Arizona region.”

**John Trujillo, Assistant Director of Public Works,
city of Phoenix**