

# Q: How can I conserve water in my industrial process plant?



**A:** Conserving water in industrial process plants involves identifying areas of the process where water is discharged, examining the quality of the discharge, and identifying other process areas where the water could be reused at least once.

The quality of the water is crucial in determining whether it can be reused. Analysis of discharge water quality includes assessment of bacteriological content, temperature, and total volume, as well as standard wastewater analysis such as measurement of total solids.

For many food processes, using fresh water is important to prevent problems caused by deterioration of water quality. But, it's possible to improve water quality for reuse by adding equipment for separation, filtration, and cooling.

A large industrial facility with a water-intensive process can use over 650 mil-

lion gallons of water per year. As water supplies in many areas of North America tighten, prices for fresh, potable water are going up — and so are wastewater discharge costs. Burns & McDonnell's understanding of a wide range of processes allows us to make recommendations for water reuse that will reduce clients' utility costs. ≡



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## News In Brief

### Engineering Excellence Award

Burns & McDonnell/New River Electrical, LLC, received a Consulting Engineers Council of Missouri Engineering Excellence Award for design of underground transmission lines for Intel Staley, LLC, at its suburban Kansas City, Mo., golf community, Staley Farms.

### ENR Ranking

Burns & McDonnell was recently ranked No. 34 in Engineering News-Record's (ENR) list of the Top 500 Design Firms. The firm rose one place from last year's rank of 35. Companies are ranked according to revenue for design services performed in 2002.

### Risk Transfer Strategy

Burns & McDonnell has signed a \$5.6 million contract with a confidential client to clean up one of its properties in Dallas. The contract is for the remediation of a chlorinated solvent plume at a chemical warehousing and distribution center.

Burns & McDonnell is employing its "Risk Transfer Strategy," using environmental insurance to allow the client to transfer the environmental cleanup liability to Burns & McDonnell. In addition, the client can complete the pending sale of the property and receive full value for the transaction as well as provide assurance from future costs related to the remediation project.

### ASHRAE Award

Burns & McDonnell's design of a robotic paint booth facility for Boeing in St. Louis has earned first-



place honors for outstanding achievement in HVAC design from the American Society of Heating,

Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). Burns & McDonnell received the award at ASHRAE's Central Region Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. As first-place winner, the project advances to the International ASHRAE Technology competition in Atlanta this summer. ≡