

Case Study Warburtons use their loaf to make big water savings

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“ We have made good progress in reducing water use on site since 2007. However, we know there is more we can do and the recent FHC site visit helped us to identify further opportunities to save water. ”



Martin Lupton, Engineering Manager, Warburtons (Burnley)

Warburtons understands that water is a precious resource. As a family business, they are conscious of the importance of conserving this natural resource for the sake of future generations.

Warburtons has committed considerable time and resource to considering how it can reduce its water usage. They are focused on identifying ways to innovate, and as part of this, are an FHC signatory, working closely with WRAP.

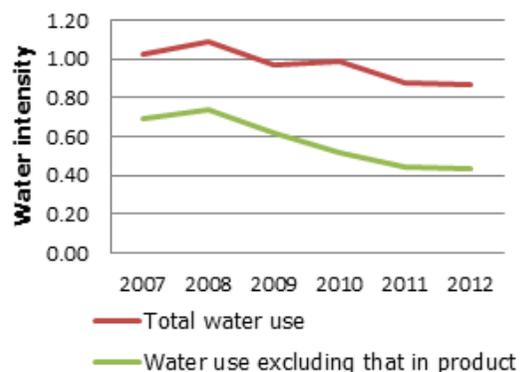
Water saving action at Burnley

Over the last five years Warburtons' site at Burnley has made significant improvements, saving 4,800 m³ water, a reduction of 12% compared to 2007, despite a 4% increase in production.

When compared to production, Figure 1 highlights that between 2007 and 2012 the:

- total water use has been reduced by 16% (from 1.02 m³/tonne, to 86 m³/tonne); and
- water use excluding that added to product has been reduced by 38% (from 0.69 m³/tonne to 0.43 m³/tonne).

Figure 1. Water use per tonne of product at Warburtons' Burnley site



To achieve this reduction in water use, the site has introduced the following water efficiency measures:

- the drain wash system was removed to eliminate unnecessary water use, which was evident during non-production times;

- toilets were fitted with water saving devices;
- water level sensors in the cooler wash plant and basket washer were adjusted to eliminate overflows;
- water use in the basket washer was optimised, reducing the need for one of the water tanks;
- the hot plate Clean – in – Place (CIP) programme was optimised with the removal of a rinse cycle; and
- pressure washers used for cleaning were replaced with dry cleaning methods, and the use of mops and buckets.

During an FHC site visit, further water savings were identified and these included:

- monitoring the water use for the basket washer to identify leaks and overflows quickly. It was estimated that this could save 460 m³/year; and
- installing a closed loop system (with cooling unit) on the ammonia condenser with an estimated saving of 1,780 m³/year.

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