



Cabot Creamery Selects CarbonSMART to Manage and Reduce its Carbon Footprint

Historic cheese maker makes sustainability advances by partnering with EnerNOC

Fast Facts:

Industry:
Agriculture/Food Manufacturing

Location:
Cabot, VT

 DemandSMART

 CarbonSMART

Why CarbonSMART?

- Enterprise-wide view of emissions
- Accurate tracking that enables mitigation
- Efficient, simple SaaS delivery model
- Actionable carbon emission insights
- Strong partnership with EnerNOC

THE BIG PICTURE

Cabot Creamery Cooperative stays on the frontline of energy management via its ongoing partnership with EnerNOC. The collaboration began in 2007, when Cabot Creamery chose EnerNOC as its energy management partner. Since then, Cabot has deployed DemandSMART at five facilities in New England and New York—protecting communities during power grid emergencies while earning payments from EnerNOC.

In 2010, this thriving business expanded its sustainability program to include CarbonSMART™—EnerNOC’s enterprise-class carbon management system. Cabot Creamery’s goal is to reduce the company’s carbon footprint by gaining more comprehensive and more timely data about its greenhouse gas emissions—data that lets it manage and

mitigate its carbon and energy footprint.

With CarbonSMART, Cabot Creamery’s carbon tracking moves from spreadsheets to a whole new level of data-driven insights. CarbonSMART helps Cabot Creamery do more than monitor its emissions more efficiently; it provides detailed operational visibility that the company uses to change processes and reduce its greenhouse gas emissions—now and far into the future.

Response from Cabot’s business partners, including key supermarket and supercenter customers, has been overwhelmingly positive. EnerNOC CarbonSMART further enhances Cabot Creamery’s reputation as a sustainability innovator, good corporate citizen, industry leader, and community-focused business.



Case Study | Cabot Creamery



CarbonSMART extends Cabot's reputation as a sustainability leader in the dairy industry and a good corporate citizen in the communities where its facilities are located.

AN EARLY, STRONG COMMITMENT TO CARBON MANAGEMENT

Operating continuously in Vermont since 1919, Cabot manufactures a full line of popular cheese, yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, and butter products. While it's in a traditional agricultural business, Cabot Creamery is anything but old-fashioned. The company's commitment to sustainability is strong and driven by a recognition that preserving the environment is vital—not just for its business, but for the well-being of its customers, community, and beyond.

Reducing the company's carbon emissions has been a priority for Cabot Creamery since 2008, driven by internal recognition of the issue's importance, as well as external requests from customers and other stakeholders. "We were actively looking at how to improve our carbon footprint, from how to measure it, to how to manage it, to how to reduce it," according to Jed Davis, director of sustainability. "Customers were beginning to ask about what we were doing to reduce our carbon footprint."

To begin the process, Cabot Creamery worked with an outside engineering firm to create a greenhouse gas emissions inventory protocol. "Our initial program was excellent, but we were aware of the shortcomings of an Excel

spreadsheet approach right from the start," says Davis. "There were inherent limitations when working with a spreadsheet, which left us dreaming of having more friendly web-based access to our data. And also, the figures were typically annual and it was difficult to get more granular."

After working with this spreadsheet for a couple of years, Cabot Creamery was convinced there was a better way to track and manage greenhouse gas emissions. "We were raising awareness of our emissions, but little else," Davis says. "We were gaining the big picture of emissions across our enterprise, but missing the ability to dig down into the details at a more micro level, where we could start to look for opportunities to reduce."

Cabot Creamery began looking for a new solution to meet its needs. "Some were targeted to the dairy industry while others were more manufacturing based," says Davis. "In many cases, we were daunted by the sheer magnitude of the solutions and their complexity, as well as their expense. So we were very happy to hear about EnerNOC CarbonSMART."

Cabot Creamery's positive experience

with DemandSMART and EnerNOC led company leaders to consider CarbonSMART as an opportunity to extend its successful partnership and address carbon accounting more effectively. "Starting with EnerNOC DemandSMART, we were able to achieve real results and success within our organization," says Davis. "So when we needed a better carbon management solution, we knew where to turn."

From the start, Davis and his team were impressed with CarbonSMART, including its capabilities and its Software as a Service (SaaS) delivery model. "CarbonSMART gives us exactly what we need," says Jim Tringe, operations planning and development analyst. "SaaS keeps implementation simple. And the software itself is extremely elegant and provides the capabilities we needed—from giving us enterprise-wide visibility to letting us look at detailed information about the sources of our emissions."

EnerNOC helped Cabot Creamery batch-load five years of annual data into CarbonSMART, keeping the process automated and efficient. Then EnerNOC worked closely with Cabot Creamery to identify and integrate high-quality data streams, such as interval meter data and other structured data, with CarbonSMART. "CarbonSMART definitely helps us solve our data consolidation issue and manage our carbon footprint across the entire enterprise," says Tringe. "After all, that's what our stakeholders want—solid, verifiable enterprise-wide figures and progress."

Now Cabot Creamery employees can turn to CarbonSMART for timely, accurate information about carbon emissions. "Better, more current data from CarbonSMART helps us make smarter decisions about our operations and how to reduce emissions," says Tringe. "Now we can view data at a more granular level. The flexibility and depth of analysis that CarbonSMART offers is truly remarkable."

THE RESULTS

CarbonSMART does much more than just solve the problems posed by the spreadsheet approach to carbon management. “The results of carbon accounting go right to our bottom line,” says Davis. “With CarbonSMART, we’re identifying our reduction targets and strategies, which will ultimately reduce our emissions and costs. More importantly, it lets us see and understand our energy use in new ways—so we can see that a certain part of our operation generates a certain number of metric tons of carbon.”

Cabot Creamery takes setting reasonable reduction goals seriously. “We don’t just want to make general promises or glib announcements,” says Davis. “We want to set honest, well thought-out reduction targets, and establish smart strategies for achieving them. We want to deliver on our promises. And once we set our policies, we’ll be using CarbonSMART to track our progress in terms of mitigation.”

THE BENEFITS

EnerNOC brings Cabot Creamery a broad knowledge of smart energy management, including carbon accounting expertise and technology. But years of working with Cabot Creamery gives EnerNOC an unequalled

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Jed Davis, Director of Sustainability

knowledge of the company, from its infrastructure to its operations to its business goals. This combination enables EnerNOC to bring carbon management to Cabot Creamery in a way that integrates seamlessly with the company—and helps it continue to advance its ever-expanding sustainability agenda. EnerNOC brings these additional benefits to Cabot Creamery:

ACTIONABLE INSIGHTS

With CarbonSMART, Cabot Creamery gains broad visibility into the main drivers of carbon emissions so it can explore its mitigation options. “We’re able to quantify the impact of drying dairy products, our most carbon-intensive operation,” says Tringe. “But we’re also spotting differences among

our facilities, such as when one facility has natural gas available and another might be running on #6 fuel oil.” CarbonSMART enables Cabot Creamery to see both the big picture and the evolving, on-the-ground reality of carbon emissions.

A SIMPLER APPROACH

CarbonSMART automates and streamlines carbon accounting, so Cabot Creamery can spend more time analyzing data—and less time managing and entering it. Its intuitive dashboard puts sophisticated capabilities at the fingertips of every user. “I have to stress the ease-of-use of CarbonSMART,” says Tringe. “It’s an incredibly elegant and easy-to-follow application, making a complicated task like carbon accounting much simpler and faster. We’ve also found it incredibly useful for all those government forms, knocking weeks off our MECS response, for example.”

ROBUST REPORTING

Accurate reporting is vital for the success



Carbon management is rapidly becoming part of every facility manager’s job description. Tracking your carbon footprint often entails time-consuming research to understand the requirements, followed by expensive consulting projects and cumbersome spreadsheets. EnerNOC’s CarbonSMART streamlines the process, providing a cost-effective and scalable way to measure, manage, and report carbon emissions, and prioritize energy reduction efforts. Delivered as Software as a Service (SaaS), CarbonSMART is coordinated, centralized, and easy to deploy and manage across the largest enterprises. CarbonSMART not only helps you to measure your carbon footprint, but also to manage it – driving actionable, quantifiable energy efficiency and dollar savings for your organization.

Want More Information?

Cabot Creamery is just one of the many innovative organizations that benefit from EnerNOC’s comprehensive energy management applications.

To find out more, call (866) 366-7820 or visit www.enernoc.com/get-started.

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Jim Tringe, Operations Planning & Development Analyst

of any carbon accounting initiative. CarbonSMART provides extensive reporting capabilities that enable Cabot Creamery to respond to mandatory or voluntary requests. “We’re getting more scrutiny from more stakeholders,” says Davis. “With CarbonSMART, we know we can meet the reporting requirements of key customers, such as Walmart with their insistence on efforts such as the Carbon Disclosure Project.” CarbonSMART leverages EnerNOC’s deep knowledge of the specific requirements of critical reporting efforts—from the Carbon Disclosure Project to The Climate Registry to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). So Cabot Creamery is ready to provide responsive, accurate reporting.”

SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

CarbonSMART extends Cabot Creamery’s

reputation as a sustainability leader in the dairy industry and a good corporate citizen in the New England and New York communities where its facilities are located. The company’s commitment to reducing carbon emissions helps build Cabot Creamery’s brand and its reputation for green, sustainable operations.

A POWERFUL, LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP

One of the keys to sustainability is choosing the right partners to make it happen, according to Davis. “When you’re trying to move the dial on sustainability, one of the most important decisions involves choosing the right partner,” Davis says. “If you find a partner you can trust, with the capabilities you need, then together you can solve a lot of problems.” For Cabot Creamery, that partner is EnerNOC, which helps it get more from energy through powerful energy

management applications, deep expertise, and proven results.

THE FUTURE

CarbonSMART provides advanced capabilities that allow Cabot Creamery to manage and prioritize opportunities for carbon reduction and energy efficiency on an ongoing basis. As Cabot Creamery sets its carbon reduction targets, it will continue to track its progress using the considerable measurement capabilities available via CarbonSMART. As more and more stakeholders require information about the company’s carbon mitigation efforts, Cabot Creamery will be ready with details, accurate, auditable reporting provided by CarbonSMART. And as new energy management challenges emerge, Cabot Creamery will turn to its trusted, proven partner—EnerNOC.



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