



The Biscuit and Cracker Manufacturers' Association (B&CMA) is pleased to announce that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released the first energy performance scoring system for Cookie & Cracker Bakeries. This system enables eligible facilities to earn the ENERGY STAR[®] label.

Cookie & Cracker Bakeries now join a growing group of food processing facilities and other business sectors that use ENERGY STAR tools to gauge energy performance and gain recognition for best in class energy efficiency.

Cookies and Cracker Bakeries have been actively pursuing environmental sustainability initiatives internally and now through the efforts of EPA and B&CMA have a standard for measuring success within their industry. The ENERGY STAR Energy Performance Indicator for Cookie and Cracker Bakeries is the culmination of the proactive approach to energy management recommended by EPA and B&CMA.

All Cookie and Cracker Bakeries can benefit from stronger energy management by saving money while reducing their carbon footprint. By working with ENERGY STAR to improve their businesses' energy efficiency, they can both reduce costs and carbon emissions. This is putting sustainability into action.

The B&CMA welcomes this opportunity to work with the U.S. EPA and provide member companies a way to track energy savings and receive recognition for their efforts.

NEXT STEPS

Join B&CMA and ENERGY STAR on Wednesday November 3 at 2 PM EST for webinar on using the Cookie & Cracker Bakery EPI and how to apply for the ENERGY STAR.

To register, go to www.thebcma.org or to <http://energystar.webex.com/meeting> then click on November 3 on the calendar and then select register after the meeting posting.

For the ENERGY STAR Energy Performance Indicator for Cookie & Cracker Bakeries go to: www.energystar.gov/industrybenchmarkingtools

ENERGY STAR

ENERGY STAR is voluntary government program that promotes energy efficiency and recognizes the superior energy performance of consumer products, buildings, and manufacturing facilities.

Earning the ENERGY STAR

Selected manufacturing facilities, including bakeries, can earn the familiar ENERGY STAR label that distinguishes sites that are the most energy efficient in the United States. To earn the ENERGY STAR label, the facility must receive an energy performance score of 75 or higher on the ENERGY STAR energy performance scale



provided in the Cookie & Cracker Energy Performance Indicator (EPI). The bakery must also have a Professional Engineer verify the energy performance and sign and seal the application document that is sent to EPA for review and approval. Bakeries awarded the ENERGY STAR receive a plaque, flag and banner templates (shown above) and other materials that communicate the site's accomplishment.

Cookie and Cracker Bakery EPI

The ENERGY STAR Cookie and Cracker Bakery EPI is a free energy benchmarking tool that enables bakeries to confidentially compare their energy performance to similar facilities in the U.S. The EPI uses a Microsoft XL spreadsheet platform and users download the EPI from the ENERGY STAR website (www.energystar.gov/industrybenchmarkingtools). Annual energy and production data is then entered into the EPI which calculates an ENERGY STAR energy performance score and provides benchmarking data on several common energy metrics. The EPI scores a plant's energy performance on scale of 1 to 100. Plants that score a 75 or higher are in the top quartile of energy performance nationally and are eligible for ENERGY STAR recognition.

The EPI is designed for bakeries and manufacturing facilities (NAICS Code 311821) where at least 50% the product shipped are either cookies, crackers or both. This product output requirement is necessary since the EPI normalizes for difference between plants in terms of production size and products produced.

How was the EPI developed?

The EPI was developed using energy and production data reported by companies to the U.S. Census. Analysts from Duke University use this data to develop the statistical models used to run the calculations for EPI. Draft EPIs were prepared and shared with a group of B&CMA member companies who tested and validated the EPI. EPA releases the EPI once the industry reviews are satisfied that the tool adequately gauges plant performance. Once an EPI is released, EPA will make periodic updates and corrections if necessary.

Why use the EPI?

The Cookie and Cracker EPI can help you understand how efficiently you are using energy. This information is important for gauging the potential for energy savings. Improving energy performance can help your company save money and demonstrate leadership in protecting the environment.