

//Case Study

Reducing our CO₂ emissions

DB Breweries acknowledges that we have a responsibility to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to global and national targets.

DB set a target nationwide to reduce CO₂ emissions in production by 44% (equivalent to CO₂-eq/hl), and in 2016 we celebrated our CO₂ emissions being reduced by 46% since 2008.

While in previous years we were able to make major infrastructure and operational changes to reduce our CO₂ emissions, in 2016 we focused on continuous improvement of our supply chain to ensure our reduced emission figures were sustainable in the long term.

A major part of our focus was on our transportation and logistics in and around our production sites, on both a large and small scale. Through TPM principles we targeted specific areas to optimise our truck movements highlighting opportunities where we could reduce fuel usage or alter our delivery systems and locations to reduce our CO₂ emissions.

We identified that the usage of our offsite storage facilities, where we store overflow product, could be optimised at certain times of year. By working hard on our forecasting we were able to ensure the amount of product held in offsite storage facilities was minimised. The effect of this was significantly reducing the movements of trucks between these sites and less time on the roads.

In 2016 we also began the development of an onsite warehouse extension at our largest Waitemata site, with the long-term aim of completely eliminating the need for additional truck movement to offsite storage.



Further, we conducted a full analysis of our production schedule across all operational sites. This highlighted some opportunities to amend our schedules in order to produce certain products at the most efficient plant based on localised demand. This optimisation significantly reduced transportation of our products as well as resulting fuel consumption.

As well as looking at our external transportation and logistics, we identified that in order to sustainably maintain our lower CO₂ emissions, and continue to reduce emissions, all aspects must be addressed; no truck or vehicle was too big or too small to ignore. Therefore in 2016 we invested in a multi-million dollar automated delivery system on the packaging lines, which has eliminated forklift usage in the area completely.

By focusing on our own transportation and logistics processes, we have been able to surpass our initial CO₂ emissions targets and have put ourselves in a position where we can push boundaries again, knowing we have initiatives in place that can support lower CO₂ emission levels into the future.

“By focusing on smaller initiatives around our operational sites we were able to make changes that continued to lower our CO₂ emissions. The culmination of all these improvements will have a large impact over the lifetime of our brewery.”

Fred Britton, Waitemata Brewery Manager

