



National Center for Supply Chain Technology Education

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATION & INDUSTRY

Thinking Green: Electronic Parts Distributor Models Energy Efficiency

Creating a new integrated production and logistics facility wasn't the most challenging project for Avnet, a Fortune 500 company and \$16 billion global leader in electronic components and computer product distribution. Making it a model of cost-efficiency and warehouse sustainability was.

In 2008 the firm opened a state-of-the-art Global Solutions Center in Chandler, Arizona just outside of Phoenix. The 320 Avnet workers at the 228,000 square foot facility build and ship more than 700,000 systems yearly. Material handling systems are set up in convenient configuration to ensure seamless movement between production and shipping. Workers take direction from a computerized warehouse management system and then remotely guide Hyster pickers through aisles to select bar-coded products to fulfill orders.

The Center's efficiency is matched by its environmental friendliness. The building meets the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver standards and features high-density insulation and windows with high UV coatings to reduce heating and cooling costs. Programmed systems automatically turn off lighting in unused areas to further reduce electrical demand. Recycling efforts involve nearly a ton of cardboard daily and finding a way to transfer foam to a local community organization needing the material for public school classrooms.

Sources:

Bradley, Peter. "Avnet Goes Lean and Green." *DCVelocity.com*. 24 February 2014. Web. 13 May 2014.

"Avnet Global Solutions Center." *Avnet Technology Solutions Fact Sheet*. Avnet Technology Solutions, 2012. Web. 27 April 2014.

