SmartWay® Transport Partnership
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

SmartWay Helps Tyson Foods Drive Out Miles, Tackle Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Company Profile

Tyson Foods, Inc., Springdale, Arkansas, is one of the world's largest processors and marketers of chicken, beef and pork, the second-largest food production company in the Fortune 500 and a member of the S&P 500. Tyson produces a wide variety of protein-based and prepared food products, serving customers throughout the United States and in more than 100 countries. Tyson employs approximately 115,000 team members at more than 400 facilities and offices in the United States and around the world. Tyson strives to be faith-friendly, provide a safe work environment and serve as stewards of the animals, land and environment entrusted to us.

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SmartWay Partners have helped the freight sector reduce 23.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide (equivalent of removing 3 million cars off the road), 478,000 tons of nitrogen oxide, and 22,000 tons particulate matter, while saving 2.3 billion gallons of fuel (a savings of $6.5 billion in fuel costs).

Company Message

"We're serious about our responsibility to the environment, which is why we joined the SmartWay Transport Partnership. The framework it provides has enabled us to evaluate, measure and reduce the environmental impact of our transportation operations in a more comprehensive and strategic way. Specifically, SmartWay has helped us reduce fuel usage and greenhouse gas emissions, and improve our operational efficiency."

– Kevin J. Igli, SVP and Chief EHS Officer

Why Tyson Foods joined SmartWay

Tyson Foods has been a long-time supporter of SmartWay's goals to improve transportation sustainability, and joined the partnership almost immediately after EPA launched it in 2004. Upon joining the company's primary goal was to use SmartWay's tools to accurately measure carbon emissions from its transportation activities and make that data available as part of its corporate wide carbon inventory.

Tyson Foods is pleased to see the significant progress which has been made with SmartWay's latest carbon accounting tools. SmartWay's updated tools have providedTyson Foods with a good assessment of its freight emissions, including emissions from both its private and contracted fleets. Understanding our Transportation footprint is critical for continual improvements aimed at protecting the environment for future generations.

SmartWay Focus

Tyson Foods is one of a few companies which participates in SmartWay as both a shipper and carrier. As a shipper/carrier Tyson is strongly committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, other air pollutants, and fuel consumption for both its private and contracted fleets. To meet its commitment as a SmartWay partner, Tyson has undertaken a broad range of initiatives related to reducing transportation miles, rail usage whenever possible, encouraging the use of low-emission engines and single-wide tires, use of aerodynamic packages, tare weight reductions, auxiliary power units, and setting company goals of only doing business with SmartWay carrier partners.

Approximately 99-percent of Tyson Foods refrigerated shipments are transported by approved SmartWay Carriers.

In addition to our commitment of moving our shipments with SmartWay approved carriers Tyson Foods, Inc. has additional programs designed to reduce the company's environmental impact and improve its overall sustainability

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SmartWay Partner Profile: Tyson Foods

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Eco-Friendly Equipment. All SmartWay Partners are committed to reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions, air pollution and fuel usage in their transportation fleets. To fulfill this commitment, Tyson Foods' Private Fleet includes over 900 auxiliary power units; employs the use of cab extenders and trailer skirts within their fleet. In addition, the company recently purchased 300 SmartWay certified tractors and 300 trailers in 2012.

Direct Ship to Customer. Tyson Foods continues to partner with its customers to evaluate and implement opportunities which alter order patterns and volumes allowing product to be shipped directly to a customer's dock. During the company's 2011 fiscal year, these efforts saved more than 1.5 million truck miles.

Heavy Shipment/Ultra-Light Equipment. Tyson Foods and our SmartWay partners have invested in ultra-light equipment allowing the company to add product weight to its shipments. In addition to procuring lighter equipment, Tyson Foods and its partners strategically identify and add weight to other high volume shipping lanes. As a result of these efforts, more than 3.9 million truck miles were saved in the company's fiscal year 2011.

Sustainable Packaging. Tyson Foods' Team members developed packaging changes to reduce box size, which at the same time allowed the addition of more product weight. These changes led to eliminating not only raw materials, but an impressive 2.1 Million truck miles.

Rail/Intermodal. Tyson Foods has further reduced its truck miles by our use of rail to ship food and other by-products to our customers. In the company's 2011 fiscal year, we shipped products over 18.8 million rail miles saving over 74 million truck miles.

Benefits & Results

At Tyson Foods, these initiatives were designed to "Drive Out Miles" while meeting the company's goals as a SmartWay shipper and carrier partner. Tyson Foods credits the support and leadership of the company's Team Members for the success of its many transportation initiatives. Altogether, Tyson Foods estimates that as a result of these efforts over 81 million over-the-road truck miles were eliminated during the company's 2011 fiscal year.

Looking Ahead

For the remainder of 2012 and beyond, Tyson Foods will continue initiatives designed to "Drive Out Miles" while fulfilling our goal to only do business with SmartWay carriers.

"Sustainability is about doing the right thing in all aspects of our business so the company can sustain itself for the long-term," says Donnie Smith, Tyson Foods President and Chief Executive Officer. "At Tyson, this includes such important areas as food safety, environmental protection, animal well-being, ethical business practices and worker health and safety. It also involves maintaining a strong bottom line since we must manage our financial resources first in order to pay for our social, environmental and product-related efforts."

