

SaskTel Environmental Initiatives Impact Study

Integrated Designs Inc. (IDI) was consulted to help answer the question of how much an environmental mandate cost and paid back.

- IDI evaluated the effectiveness of SaskTel's adopted environmental initiatives in terms of the triple bottom line: economic, environmental, and social prosperity. As a prosperous corporation, SaskTel was also very interested in the initiatives' risk management effect.
- The economic impact was largely due to facility retrofits that vastly reduced energy cost. Using its building systems expertise, IDI estimated savings due to reduced pumping power, lowered hot water setpoints, and installation of high-efficiency equipment, as examples. Operational measures, such as conference calling to save traveling cost and recycling to divert waste from the landfill, were also evaluated for their economic benefit.
- The environmental impact analysis involved evaluating recycling measures in terms of natural resources spared, energy measures (in facilities, transportation, and operations) in terms of greenhouse gas emission reduction, and water use initiatives in terms of litres of processed water saved.
- The social impact analysis was best presented qualitatively by defining three major ways that SaskTel has an impact socially.
- To demonstrate the effect of environmental initiatives on risk management, IDI defined and justified the top environmental initiatives that reduced risk incurred by SaskTel. This analysis was well received, and provided insight into how an environmental initiative can affect all aspects of a corporation.
- The successful report was presented to many levels of SaskTel, including the Board Directors, the president of the company, and the provincial legislative assembly. The results of the analysis encouraged SaskTel to continue, or even better, its mandate to improve its impact on the natural and social environment.