



GEMI[®]

Collecting the Drops:

**A Water
Sustainability
Planner**

Case Example

The Procter & Gamble Company: Reusing Water and Saving on Effluent Fees in Germany

One of Procter and Gamble Company's (P&G) facilities in Germany conducted a creative program for water reuse as a joint project with the local government. The HS&E staff led the project, which supported the overall costs savings goal for the site.

At P&G's Family Care manufacturing site in Neuss, Germany, engineers developed an innovative way to recycle water and the chemicals in the water. It was a joint project with the local government, which resulted in a full refund of the project costs through the waiver of effluent fees. The project entailed adding a 40-micron polyester mesh filter on the discharge of the plant's paper machine. The resulting clean water was reused in the drying process to offset use of well water. Other uses for the water included cooling water, sealing water for pumps, and cleaning nozzles. The project reduced COD (chemical oxygen demand) by 20 percent and water usage by 35 percent. It yielded a benefit for the environment as well as cost savings for the company.