

TENNESSEE GREEN STAR PARTNERSHIP MEMBER HIGHLIGHT



SmithNephew

By: Vaughn Cassidy

Smith+Nephew is a global medical technology company whose activities include the manufacture of orthopedic implants and trauma instruments utilized in orthopedic surgery by healthcare providers to improve the quality of people's lives. Smith+Nephew is currently the largest manufacturer in Memphis, employing over 2,000 employees. The company has two manufacturing locations in Memphis; a facility on Brooks Road, which produces plates, screws, nails and hip and knee implants, and a location on East Holmes Road, which uses a zirconium alloy to produce knee and hip components. In addition to the manufacturing facilities, Smith+Nephew also has a corporate office located on Goodlett Farms Parkway which houses corporate personnel, sales/marketing department, and a training facility for surgeons.

Smith+Nephew's scale of operations is significant and represents a large environmental footprint to manage. The company's environmental management system has been certified under ISO 14001 since 2001. In addition to the environmental management aspect, Smith+Nephew has made significant strides in developing its safety culture through the development and implementation of written programs and employee engagement initiatives. For the past four years, Smith+Nephew has been able to achieve a "World Class" injury incident rate (TIR) and has received numerous safety awards from EHS industry vendors such as Intelex and EHS Daily Advisor.

In addition to their safety successes, Smith+Nephew has also made an impressive commitment to energy conservation, waste management and waste reduction initiatives. Billy Powell, HSE Regional Director - North America added, "An example of Smith+Nephew's position is its commitment to purchase 100% renewable electricity by 2022 for its Memphis facilities." Smith+Nephew initiated this plan in 2020 by purchasing over 72,000 MWh of renewable energy credits from the TVA Green Flex Participation program. Besides committing to purchasing these, there have been reductions in water, and electricity and a 6% decrease in natural gas usage from 2019 levels. The ongoing pursuit of even more energy usage reductions in Memphis is the target of an energy conservation survey/program Smith+Nephew has undertaken in 2021.

FEATURED THIS MONTH

- Established in Memphis in 1986
- Became a Green Star Partner in 2021
- Employs greater than 2,000 employees

FUN FACT:

- Richards Manufacturing Company was originally established in Memphis, TN in 1934, and operated as such until it was acquired by Smith+Nephew in 1986.
- Currently has the most employees of any manufacturer in Memphis.



By committing to zero waste to the landfill by 2025 and to 100% renewable electricity by 2022, Smith+Nephew is challenging their current practices. The two manufacturing facilities are now at 56% recycling of waste generated. Recycling is achieved through several activities, with a significant amount coming from the recycling of 368 tons of metal and 291 tons of used oil and coolants offered for recycling in 2021. Even regular facility trash is sorted to recover recyclable material, which resulted in 287 tons being recycled. Recycling construction debris, an item often overlooked during large projects, has led to the recovery of 629 tons through the use of the local E-Box Recycling Center.

Smith+Nephew is not only concerned with the health of the environment, but the company is also concerned with the health and well-being of their employees and the communities in which they live and work. Memphis employee-based wellness activities include weight loss challenges, onsite and virtual health and wellness fairs, blood drives and onsite mammograms. Healthy activity in the community has been encouraged through the donation of a community soccer field and a play area for local children. Employees are allotted 8 hours of paid time off for volunteering with local non-profit organizations.

Smith+Nephew joins other Tennessee Green Star Partners in the Memphis area such as Mitsubishi Methacrylates (formerly Lucite International), American Snuff Company, and Unilever, as our newest member. "We are excited to welcome Smith+Nephew of Memphis into the Tennessee Green Star Partnership," said Kendra Abkowitz, director of TDEC's Office of Policy and Sustainable Practices.

As a Tennessee Green Star Partner, Smith+Nephew participates in our office's annual industry surveys, webinars, and ongoing sustainable initiatives like the <u>Tennessee Materials Marketplace</u>, an online platform that provides opportunities to Tennessee industries, businesses, and organizations to reuse materials that may otherwise be bound for the landfill.







The Tennessee Green Star Partnership is a voluntary environmental leadership program designed to recognize industries in the state that are committed to sustainable practices. If you are interested in joining other sustainable industries in Tennessee by becoming a member, please contact us.

DON'T FORGET YOUR ANNUAL REPORT

We ask that TGSP members provide annual reports no later than November 15th (reporting period Oct 1, 2020 – Sept 30, 2021).

*Please note on your report if your company is providing metrics for a calendar year.

Thank you for providing metrics that support the Partnership.

ANNUAL REPORT LINK