Xanterra is the largest park concessionaire in the US, operating hotels, restaurants, retail stores, marinas and transportation systems.

**XANTEERA PROMISES TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE**

Xanterra’s Climate Saver commitment is to reduce CO$_2$ emissions by 10% below its 2000 emissions by 2015. Its specific targets for reducing emissions are calculated per property. Actions range from implementing sophisticated renewable energy generation systems and energy management controls, to seasonally shutting down systems and educating employees on energy conservation. It is also employing literally hundreds of minor measures to save energy at locations across the country. Other specific targets include:

- increasing renewable energy purchases to at least 3% of its total purchases by 2015
- retrofitting more than 25,000 inefficient incandescent lamps with efficient compact fluorescent or alternative lamps
- installing energy management controls in appropriate areas.

**MAKING IMPRESSIVE PROGRESS**

Xanterra has made impressive progress on these commitments. Company-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions dropped significantly between 2000 and 2007, while visitor numbers remained stable. Total CO$_2$ emissions reduced by 13.3% (16.6% normalized for revenue) during that time.

This reduction, possibly the company’s most significant environmental achievement, is due to a combination of:

- on-site renewable energy generation systems (primarily solar PV)
- wind power purchases
- switching from heating fuel oil to propane
- 57,000 lighting retrofits between 2000 and 2008
- strategic conservation programs (especially targeted area shutdowns, more energy control systems in rooms and facilities, and efficiency upgrades).

“Xanterra offers hospitality in the great National and State Parks of the US. The natural wilderness and beauty of these places makes them unique and precious environments – so it is wholly appropriate for Xanterra to be committed to the protection of our global environment. Our partnership with WWF, the world’s leading conservation organisation, through the Climate Savers program, is a valuable and important part of our positive work for the world’s climate and natural environment.”

Catherine Greener
Vice President, Environmental Affairs
www.xanterra.com
Xanterra has exceeded its ten-year Climate Savers GHG emission-reduction goal of 10%, and is well on its way to reaching its 2015 Environmental Vision goal of a 30% reduction.

Xanterra used 6,945,723 kWh in renewable wind, solar or geothermal energy in 2007 (it also uses a large amount of hydroelectric power, which is not included in these figures). This is 16.5% of all national park electricity usage, and 11.5% of all Xanterra operations’ electricity usage.

It has now exceeded its 10 year Climate Savers GHG emission-reduction goal of 10%, and is well on its way to reaching its 2015 Environmental Vision goal of a 30% reduction.

A one-megawatt solar photovoltaic (PV) energy system was constructed at Xanterra’s Death Valley operation in 2008. The size of five football fields, it has more than 5,700 solar panels and will generate more than 2.2 million kWh per year for the next 30 years or more. This is enough electricity to power more than 500 homes.

It is reducing Xanterra’s GHG emissions by 832 tons a year, making a total reduction of 20,790 tons of CO₂ over the system’s 25-year warranty life. This is a company-wide reduction of more than 1% annually.

This system is not only one of the largest non-utility PV energy systems in the Country, Xanterra believes it is also the largest in the entire U.S. tourism industry and among all national park concessioners.

Overall, Xanterra powers 16.5% of its national park operations with renewable energy. As well as the Death Valley system, Xanterra has four other PV systems installed in its operations. The system at Rocky Mountain National Park’s retail store atop Trail Ridge Road (a 2,400 watt roof-mounted PV system) is unique in that it is off-grid and uses a battery bank for electricity storage.

CONTROLLING THE ENERGY – AND THE COOKING

Energy controls have been installed in several Xanterra locations. In 2006, Maumee Bay State Park began using a state-of-the-art computerized energy management system called Automated Logic. Using this, the chief engineer remotely monitors cabins for energy usage, detects if there is a malfunction in any mechanical equipment, sets temperatures before guests arrive, and prevents pipes from freezing in winter, all at the touch of a button from his desk. This saves money while improving the guests’ experience.

At many other Xanterra locations energy management controls, occupancy sensors, programmable thermostats, and Energy Miser™ controls are reducing energy usage. At the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, Xanterra installed 325 occupancy-sensing, digitally-programmable thermostats. At Yellowstone, Energy Miser™ controls shut down vending machines when not in use, saving up to 25% in refrigeration costs per machine.

At Mount Rushmore, Xanterra has implemented the latest in kitchen technology – a variable speed hood control system. This senses heat and smoke, automatically modulating the fan motors up or down depending on usage. If a grill is shut down during a slow period, the hood reacts accordingly and lowers its speed.

The resulting energy savings of around $19,000 a year are enough to pay for the system in just over one year. This includes savings from the electricity that runs the motors, as well as saving on heating and cooling by not sending conditioned air outside. GHG emissions savings are estimated at 180 tonnes a year from this unit alone.

Emissions reductions for this company are based upon short tons (2000 lbs/ton).

Other companies’ figures in this fact sheet are based upon metric tons (2204.6 lbs/ton).