INNOVATE HAWAII

Innovate Hawaii is here to help. We serve small and medium-size companies of all industries in Hawaii who are willing to invest time, money, and people to build and improve their business. Innovate Hawaii will help you find, save, and make money. We act as your general practitioner, providing a wealth of knowledge and meeting various industry-specific needs. We have worked in food processing, agribusiness, construction materials, management consulting, SBIR/STTR grant assistance, electronics, metals, secondary wood, textile, biotech and many other industries applying our expertise to a broad base of industries in Hawaii.

The MEP National Network™ is a unique public-private partnership that delivers comprehensive, proven solutions to U.S. manufacturers, fueling growth and advancing U.S. manufacturing.
ENERGY, EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

ABOUT ULULANI’S HAWAIIAN SHAVE ICE, LLC. Ululani’s Hawaiian Shave Ice has an ice manufacturing facility on Maui where they also produce syrups and flavorings for their frozen dessert treats. The company employs over 50 people throughout the state.

THE CHALLENGE. Ululani’s has grown steadily year over year and has become a staple in the industry. The company has grown from a single store to more than 6 locations and a separate manufacturing facility. Steady growth brought with it the realization that long term sustainability could only be maintained with a focus on energy efficiency. With no dedicated energy expertise in-house, the company was looking for outside resources to help them meet their goals.

MEP CENTER’S ROLE. INNOVATE Hawaii, a NIST MEP affiliate, approached Ululani’s about participating in their Energy, Efficiency and Sustainability internship project through partnership with Maui College. This partnership was entering its sixth year and was seeking companies to participate in an expanded project that would include Energy Efficiency data studies and implementation of energy efficiency improvements. Since Ululani’s has an extensive ice manufacturing facility, the efficiency of the ice making process would also be analyzed.

"Being able to work with INNOVATE Hawaii and the Maui College interns is a double benefit. The interns are able to apply the knowledge they learn in their Sustainability Studies to assist us in finding ways to improve Energy Efficiency in our operations. At the same time the INNOVATE Hawaii program has been providing Lean Manufacturing training to students and employers so they will have the tools needed to implement long term continuous improvements. This kind of expertise and advice is normally outside the reach of a business of our size. Many thanks to INNOVATE Hawaii for setting up and supporting this program."

-Andrea Peltzer, HR Manager

RESULTS

- Over $120,000 in annual energy savings identified
- Lean Manufacturing assessment increased production
- Improved productivity results in 10% new sales