EFCampus Shut the Sash Initiative

Abigail Starr | Aidan Long | Praveen(Grad Lead) October 30th, 2024





Why Focus on Lab Buildings?



Lab Buildings take up 10% of land on campus, but are responsible for 40% of campus energy consumption.

Fume Hoods



fume hoods are variable
— the exhaust fan works
harder to evacuate air
when the sash is more
open

if left open when not in use, the ventilation system uses extremely high energy

the Shut the Sash Initiative encourages proper closure





In Spring 2024, Fume Hoods Used...

TOTAL

750,000 kWh

ERC
223,000 kWh
GCIS
296,000 kWh
Searle
231,000 kWh

BY LAB

...brew 44.8 million cups of coffee!



That's Enough
Energy to...

...drive an electric car for 2,340,000 miles.
You could circle the Earth's equator 94 times!

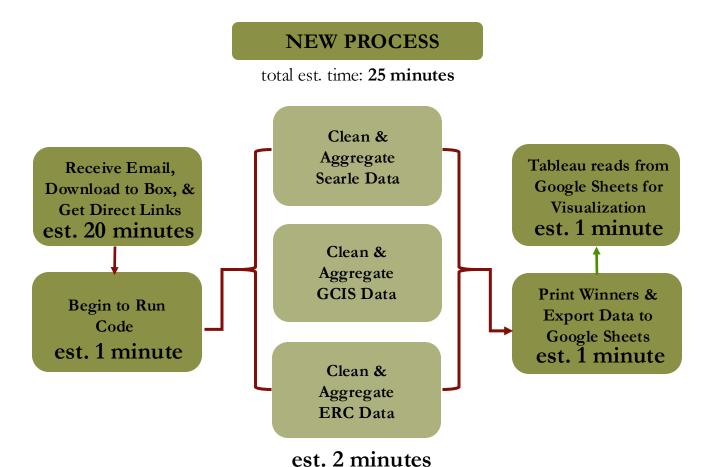


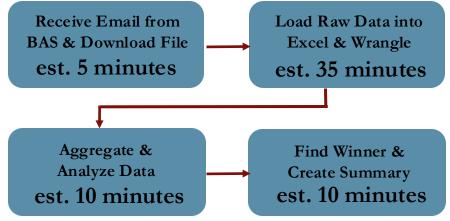
Shut the Sash — Improvements

data analysis process streamlined into single pipeline

OLD PROCESS

(Per Lab Building)





est. time: 60 minutes for each lab 3+ hours total for 3 labs

3+ hours vs. 25 minutes

reduced time taken to analyze fume hood data by over 75%.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

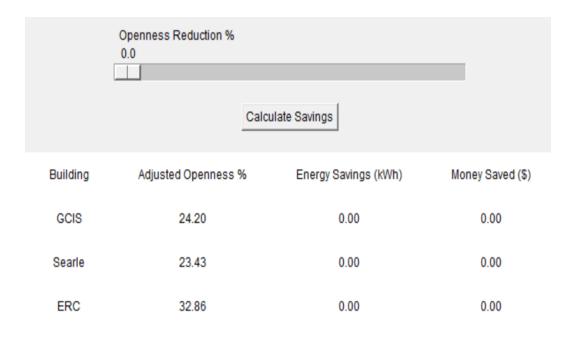


Shut the Sash Tools — Savings Calculator

Methods

- an interactive tool that displays how much energy/money would be saved if average percent openness decreased by x%
- when x is 0, "Adjusted Openness %" is buildings average from previous Quarter (i.e. Spring 2024)

Calculator In Action – Starting Openness





Shut the Sash — Impact

Current Impact

- quickly and accurately documents energy usage within labs
 - o the bottom 10 labs used ~493,491.94 kWh of energy, spending **\$64,153.95**
 - \circ a 3% reduction would save \sim 60,000 kWh.
- address trends in fume hood usage as a university community via quarterly newsletters and seminars
- expanding initiative to all campus buildings

Change from Winter to Spring 2024

