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2020 Gold awards

To win a Gold award, businesses must comply with all applicable air quality regulations for at least three years and employ additional clean air practices in at least two of these categories: energy efficiency; emissions reductions; air pollution prevention practices related to their specific business sector; and transportation, such as reducing commute trips, having no-idling policies and switching to cleaner vehicle fleets. This year's awards are based on 2019 emissions.

<u>Business name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>
Bellingham Professional Finishes Clean air action highlights: <u>Emissions reductions</u> – Reduced annual spray shop emissions by over 600 percent in the past 18 months by becoming a fully waterborne, low volatile organic compounds company. <u>Transportation</u> – Purchased two five-passenger vans in the past 2½ years to reduce the number of vehicles going to work sites. Also instituted a company-wide no-idle policy.	Bellingham	Whatcom
Golden Nut Company Clean air action highlights: <u>Emissions reductions</u> – Reduced operating hours from 24 hours a day seven days week to 12 hours a day five days a week. <u>Transportation</u> – The only gas-powered forklift is limited to outside dumping only when the facility's two indoor garbage bins are full, limiting the forklift's usage.	Blaine	Whatcom
Island Transit Clean air action highlights: <u>Energy efficiency</u> – Replaced incandescent lights with LED lights at two Park & Ride lots. <u>Transportation</u> – Added five propane-fired buses to the fleet and now use B5 bio-diesel in the other buses.	Coupeville	Island
La Conner Wastewater Plant Clean air action highlights: <u>Energy efficiency</u> – Changed 90 percent of lighting to LED. <u>Transportation</u> – Purchased a more efficient John Deere loader and retired two old loaders.	La Conner	Skagit
Lakeside Industries Inc. – Belleville Clean air action highlights: <u>Energy efficiency</u> – Replaced an air compressor with a more energy efficient air compressing, resulting in energy savings of about 11 percent. <u>Transportation</u> – Replaced an old Tier Interim loader with a new Tier 4 Final loaders to reduce transportation emissions.	Burlington	Skagit

LKQ Corp.

Bellingham

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Implemented an energy efficiency program based on consulting with Cascade Energy ISO Program to reduce kilowatt-hour consumption by 13.4 percent and sustained the reduction throughout 2019. The reduction comes from multiple low-cost or no-cost initiatives, including a “tag-a-leak” program to identify and repair compressed air leaks, reducing compressor set points by 2 psi, insulating hot water tanks, and adjusting functionality on an air filtration system to become more efficient.

Emissions reductions – Production and emissions remained flat in 2019. Increased energy efficiency related to overall lower CO2 emissions at the power-generation facility.

Transportation – Encouraged carpooling and employee bike riding. Hosted multiple bicycle maintenance and repair workshops to encourage employees to get bicycles in working order. Provide tools and support for any employee interested in bicycle tune-up.

Miles Sand and Gravel – Aggregate Plant

Everson

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Ongoing replacement of inefficient incandescent lighting with florescent or LED lighting. Front-end loaders replaced with more energy-efficient models, saving fuel.

Emissions reductions – New front loaders with Tier 4 engines emit less carbon and greenhouse gases than the older loaders they replaced.

Transportation – Implemented no-idle policy for trucks waiting to be loaded. Warm-up times reduced by one-third from 15 to 10 minutes. Purchase program now ongoing yearly to replace old trucks with new Tier 4 engine-equipped trucks. Trucks/trailers designed with lightweight options to reduce fuel consumption and emissions.

Miles Sand and Gravel – Belleville Pit

Burlington

Skagit

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Ongoing replacement of inefficient incandescent lighting with low-power efficient LED lighting. Changing out older, less-efficient pumps and motors with new, more energy-efficient models. Replaced two older front-end loaders with Tier 4 models that use less carbon-based fuel (diesel) per day. Now have four Tier 4 loaders in the fleet and will replace another old one this spring.

Emissions reductions – Newer material-handling equipment emits less carbon and greenhouse gases.

Transportation – Trucks waiting to be loaded are not allowed to idle more than 3 minutes. Mobile equipment must be shut down when not in use so they are not left idling.

NorthStar Woodworks

Ferndale

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – LED lighting installed in the shop, storage building and metal shop. LED lighting now being installed in the office building.

Emissions reductions – Reducing VOC emissions by using lower-VOC paints.

Sector specific – Dust collection returned to building for a heat source.

Port of Anacortes

Anacortes

Skagit

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – The port implemented a suite of energy efficiency updates to Cap Sante Marina, port maintenance facilities, and port offices. These improvements are part of a larger, multiyear effort to improve the port’s energy efficiency. Updated interior and exterior lighting at the marina’s web lockers.

Updated lighting along the esplanade to provide increased user safety, increased service life, and increased efficiency. Upgraded its lighting at the maintenance shop and replaced the heaters, which were more than 20 years old, with more efficient models.

Praxair Inc.

Ferndale

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Added motion sensors to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms, which reduces energy use. In 2018, electric baseboard heat was replaced with a high-efficiency ductless heating and cooling system. Installed an Automatic Demand Response (ADR) system in 2018 that allows sites operations to see real-time electricity use and adjust plant operations as needed. The ADR also allows the Public Utility District to request plant shutdowns or load shedding to prevent power interruptions to residential users in time of high energy demand.

Emissions reductions – In 2016-2017, vapor recovery piping was installed on the dry ice block presses to recover purified CO2 for re-use in process. In 2018, the facility installed new piping to recover more raw feed gas to the suction pressure piping. This upgrade reduces CO2 venting, by re-condensing gas that would otherwise vent to atmosphere and allows for the raw feed to be better recovered when the supplier is not operating. By recovering vapor, we are able to reduce the amount of CO2 lost to atmosphere and the amount of raw CO2 needed to be processed. Processing less raw CO2 reduces VOC emissions from the CO2 purification process.

Seattle City Light

Newhalem

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Finished replacing traditional incandescent lights with energy-efficient LED lights.

Transportation – Increased the number of electrical vehicles purchased and used at the Skagit Hydroelectric Project and installed electrical vehicle charging stations.

Skagit Farmers Supply – Burlington

Burlington

Skagit

Clean air action highlights:

Emissions reductions – Installed new fuel hoses at station that meet the UL 559N regulations. Low permeation hardwall gasoline pump hose helps the environment.

Sector specific – Improved our underground fuel tank pressure decay system in August 2019, which included a \$45,000 upgrade to reduce pollution.

Skagit Ready Mix Concrete – CPC Materials Inc.

Mount Vernon

Skagit

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Over the last three years, plant crews have phased out sodium halide lights at the site and replaced them with more efficient LEDs.

Sector specific – Additional paving was done at the entrance and exit to further reduce fugitive dust.

Transportation – Four new mixer trucks are operating in the fleet. The new trucks are more fuel efficient and have lower emissions. The trucks' fuel efficiency increased by an estimated 3.5 mpg.

Stan's Auto Body

Bellingham

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – Interior shop lights were switched to LEDs and CFLs where possible within the last three years.

Emissions reductions – Switched to the Glasurit paint line, which is water based, as well as a lesser solvent-based ultraviolet primer to eliminate the heavy chemicals of other paint brands and the especially strong chemically based primer. Much less primer is used with this new brand.

Now buy five-gallon containers of lacquer instead of the 25-gallon containers used previously, so the shop is using less than a quarter of what it previously used.

Whatcom Transportation Authority

Bellingham

Whatcom

Clean air action highlights:

Energy efficiency – LED Lighting was completed at the Main Office and Administration Base (MOAB), including all exterior lighting in the employee parking lot and bus storage yard, shop high bay lighting and main team room lighting. This project saved over 250,000 kW of electricity per year. Solar panels with a battery backup power supply was installed at the WTA Bellingham Transit Center (BTC) in 2017 instead of a diesel or gas-powered backup generator. WTA has generated over 14,000 kW of green energy in the first two years of operation. WTA also buys green power from PSE.

Emissions reductions – WTA converted 13 Paratransit buses from gas to propane and installed a propane fueling station at MOAB. In 2019 budgeted to buy nine more propane-powered buses for 2020. In 2017, WTA bought three Toyota Priuses for driver shuttles.

Transportation – WTA has a no-idle policy for all 161 vehicles, including 60 fix transit buses and 43 paratransit buses. Through its worksite Commute Trip Reduction program, WTA provides facilities, support, and incentives to encourage its employees to make more non-single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips to work. Facilities include showers and lockers, covered bike storage, and limited use of non-revenue staff cars for personal errands. All employees also receive a free bus pass. Support includes carpool matching, information regarding good bike and walking routes to work, and resources, including free, local bike commuting classes. Incentives include quarterly gift cards and occasional special prizes and promotions, such as for Bike to Work and School Day. WTA also supports trip reduction through its countywide Emergency Ride Home Program and as a founding partner of the Whatcom Smart Trips Program. Through the Emergency Ride Home program – current WTA pass holders and registered Smart Trips participants are eligible for up to three Emergency Rides Home per year. WTA administers the program and books and pays for the taxi rides. As a founding partner of the Smart Trips program, WTA provides ongoing financial support and implements Smart Trips' marketing and community awareness efforts. Since the Smart Trips program began in 2006, 21,000 people have joined the program. Together they have logged 4.7 million Smart Trips (or non-SOV trips) in Whatcom County. In 2019, WTA completed a new electric bus-charging yard. This facility was completed in preparation of the two all-electric 40-foot buses and charging equipment scheduled for delivery in 2020.