UCI SMART IAC Updates

Chelsea Choudhary CalPlug Workshop ccchoudh@uci.edu 10/24/2023



UCI SMART IAC

Sustainable Manufacturing Alliance for Research and Training Industrial Assessment Center









UCI SMART IAC Energy Assessments

- Energy efficiency, waste reduction, and productivity enhancements
- Energy efficiency techniques: lighting, air compressors, motors, furnaces, ovens, boilers, HVAC, chillers, water treatment systems, renewables, and much more!
- Bringing SMART into our IAC: smart manufacturing, cybersecurity, lifecycle analysis, fuel switching, etc.



UCI SMART IAC Energy Assessments

- Tour
- Brainstorm
- Collect data
- Develop report
- Follow up



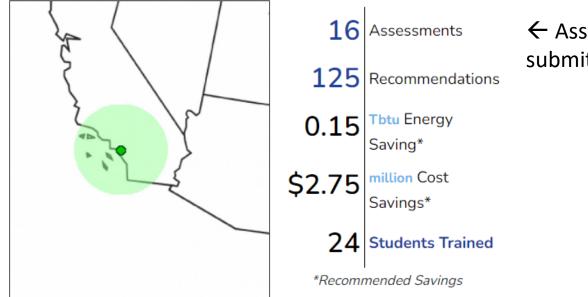
IAC Website Snapshot

UCI University of California, Irvine

University of California, Irvine

Student Research Award Winner: 2022

The University of California, Irvine Industrial Assessment Center (CI-IAC) provides **free energy, productivity, and waste assessments** to small and medium-sized industrial facilities through funding provided by the US Department of Energy.



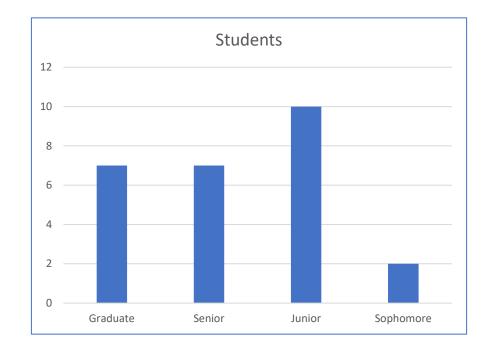
← Assessment reports submitted to IAC database

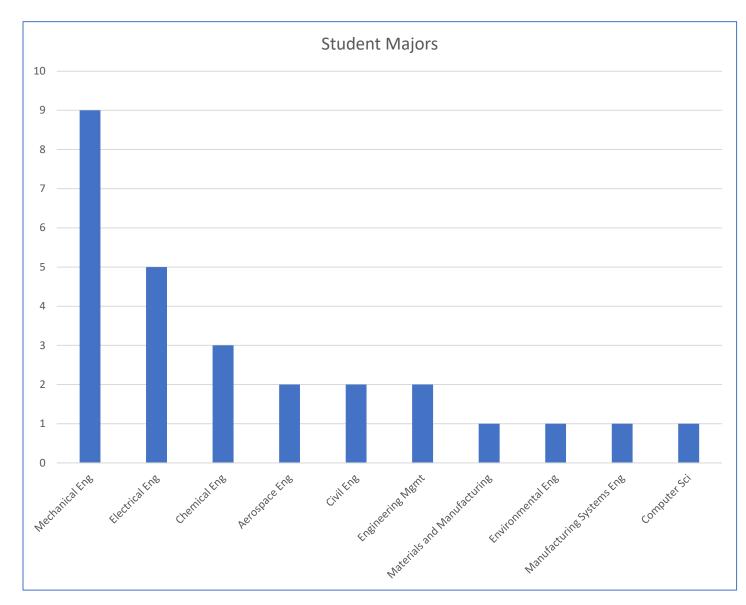
https://iac.university/center/CI



Student Team

- UCI: 23 Students
- CSUN: 3 Students
- Cypress: 1 Students



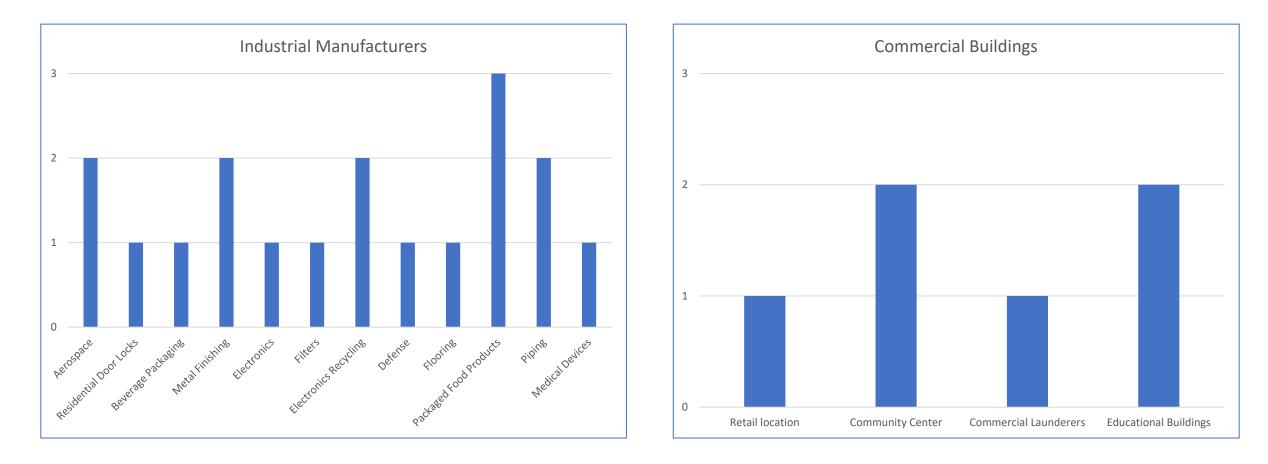




Energy Assessments Performed

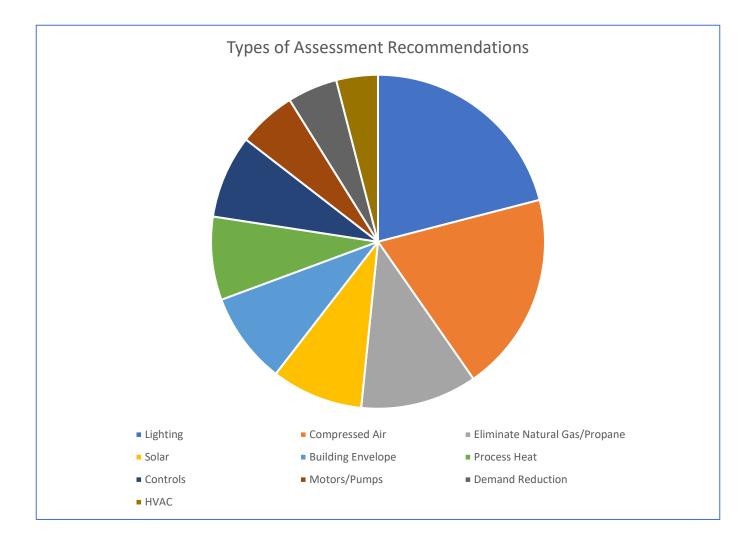
18 industrial energy assessments

6 commercial energy assessments





Assessment Recommendations

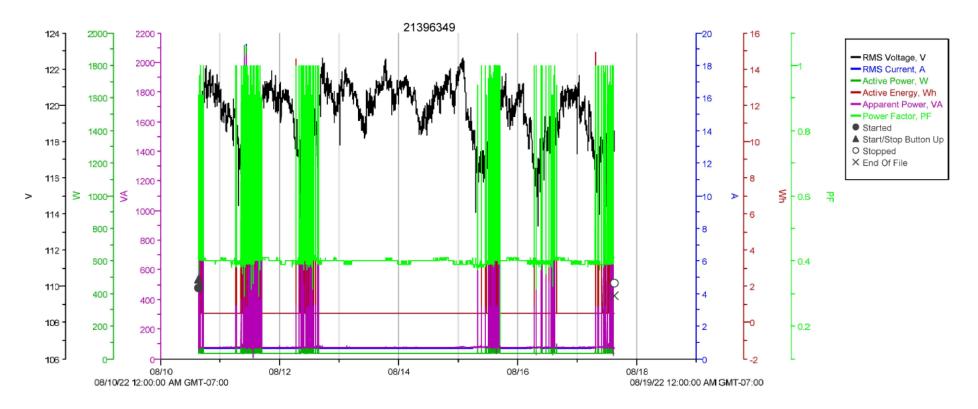




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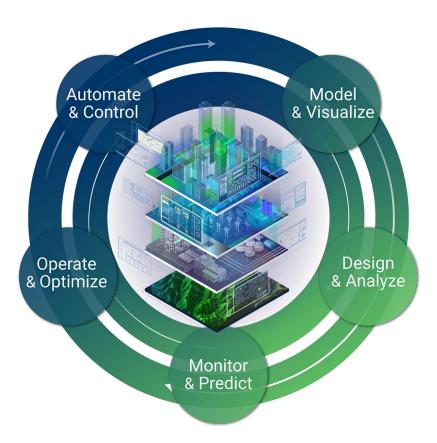
Unique Ideas – Dataloggers

• Equipment monitoring, controls and timers





Unique Ideas – Digital Twin Projects



• Real-time data for analysis by simulating models of systems in a virtual environment

- Analyze operating conditions and provide estimates of energy consumption
- Al-driven energy disaggregation modeling can lead to energy optimization and savings, alternate solutions to manufacturing processes, and increased productivity



Unique Ideas – Smart Manufacturing Projects

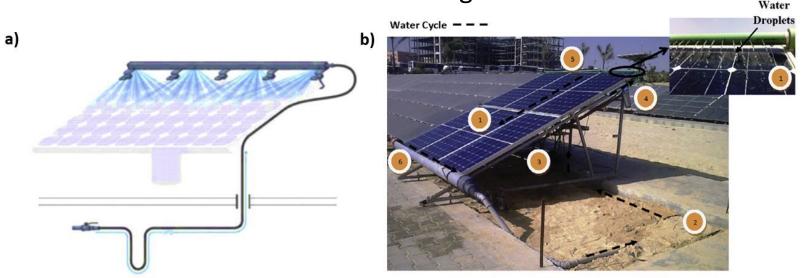
- Cameras can automatically scan for preventative maintenance issues
- Cameras can be utilized for advanced training for operators
- Cameras can be used as occupancy sensors and connect to smart building energy management systems to control areas only when occupied





Unique Ideas – Cooling for Solar Systems

- Active cooling for solar systems pumping water over the cells
- Temperature affects the performance of solar cells
 - Estimated that the power output of the system decreases ~0.5% per temperature degree
- Ideal when client already produces a lot of wastewater
 - Second use of the water can be in PV cooling



DOE Implementation Grants

- DOE is offering grants of up to \$300,000 with one-to-one matching from the client to help implement recommendations from IAC assessments
- Supporting projects that are meant to improve energy and material efficiency, enhance cybersecurity, increase productivity, deploy smart and advanced manufacturing technologies, and reduce waste and pollution at SMM facilities
- Encouraging our clients to apply, giving grant program updates to eligible clients, and **providing technical assistance** with application submissions

To learn more about the IAC Implementation Grant program – including FAQs – and to apply, visit: https://www.energywerx.org/opportunities/iac-round-2



Student Experiences – Summer 2023

- Daniela Ruiz
 - PhD Student
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - NREL Internship



- Jiadong Zhao
 - Grad Student
 - Electrical Engineering
 - UCI SMART IAC and NREL Internship



- John Pham
 - Senior
 - Chemical Engineering
 - NREL Internship



- Huiting Qin
 - PhD Student
 - Materials and Manufacturing
 - IRWD Internship



Student Testimonial

- Chris Ramirez
 - Senior
 - Mechanical Engineering
 - Student Lead





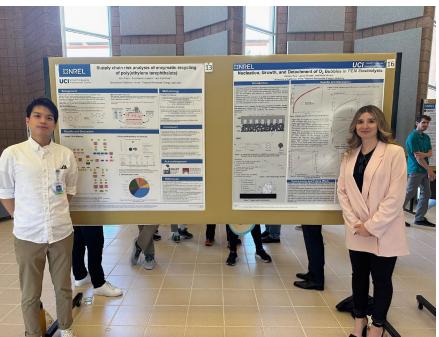




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CALIFORNIA PLUG LOAD RESEARCH CENTER





Questions?



