



Sustainable Supply Chain Program

New York State Pollution Prevention Institute (NYSP2I) assists companies with achieving their Sustainable Supply Chain goals by helping to offset costs associated with greening operations and supply chain

Supply Chain Sustainability Assessment for Fox Run Vineyards

Client

Fox Run Vineyards, a family-owned business, is comprised of fifty acres of vineyards on Seneca Lake whose winery produces 15,000 cases annually. With the first grapes planted in 1984 and a winemaking facility established in 1990, Fox Run is dedicated to a program of minimal intervention winemaking. With sustainable practices in both vineyard and cellar, Fox Run adheres to a low impact agricultural philosophy of protecting the diverse ecosystem present on its land and the pristine waters of Seneca Lake.



Opportunity Areas

Companies are under greater pressure today to measure and document their environmental and societal impacts. Businesses that strategize, set targets, measure, monitor, and report their sustainability efforts will likely generate more revenue, retain and potentially create jobs, and reduce the risk of jeopardizing potential business. Fox Run recognizes the need to tell their sustainability story and continuously improve to create a strategic position with customers and stakeholders as an opportunity to retain and increase business.

Objective

NYSP2I expanded on current efforts at Fox Run by conducting a supply chain sustainability assessment using a tool developed by NYSP2I which uses internationally accepted guidelines. This assessment primarily inquired about environmental performance but also addressed the economic, social, and governance aspects of how Fox Run practices sustainability. Opportunities to advance their sustainability efforts internally, as well as externally via their supplier base were also evaluated.



Work Performed

1. NYSP2I reviewed Fox Run's documentation for sustainability policies, initiatives, and relevant company data.
2. NYSP2I then performed a one day assessment of the winery by conducting interviews with Fox Run's owner and wine maker while also evaluating the winemaking facility. The assessment included a review of the production process, inputs, outputs, procedures, targets, and measures.

Results

The assessment identified opportunities that include:

- Informing procurement personnel of sustainable purchasing alternatives such as cleaning chemicals and packaging;
- Improving the process and detail of measuring impacts on all levels to set meaningful objectives and targets and to track performance;
- Adding policy, objectives and targets, performance and action plans to marketing and communications material.

Fox Run anticipates an 8% increase in sales due to communicating its sustainability commitment and performance, resulting in retaining 10 jobs and creating an additional 1 job.

