



Department of  
**Environment &  
Conservation**



## Ceco Door Products - ASSA ABLOY Group

Ceco Door Products in Milan, TN is part of the ASSA ABLOY Group, a global lock and security entrance systems company. Ceco Door Products is the world's leading manufacturer of steel and hollow metal doors and frames, ranging from quality custom designs to standard door models. Ceco Door specializes in new and retrofit construction projects in the commercial, education, and healthcare markets. At Ceco Door, Milan facility, a variety of standard and custom doors, frames, and door hardware products are manufactured. Ceco's Milan site also serves as a test site for a variety of the company's newly developed products.

Sustainability has been a priority for Ceco Door. Over 94% of Ceco Door waste is diverted from the landfill due to a dramatic reduction in paint sludge over the last two years. Ceco Door has gone from over 4,000 pounds of listed paint sludge waste per month to just under 500 pounds per month. This reduction has allowed the facility to transition from a large quantity generator of hazardous waste to a small quantity generator of hazardous waste.

Ceco Door also changed their primer paint formulation to one with much lower levels of VOCs (volatile organic compounds) and heavy metals, which has led to a significant reduction in air pollution and hazardous waste generation.

"The process of changing the primer paint was a very labor intensive project," said David Dewberry, Environmental Engineer for Ceco Door. The Milan facility invested nearly 2,000 man hours from the

TGSP Highlights- June 2018

**Ceco Door**  
**ASSA ABLOY**

- **Member 2018**
- **Employs +400**
- **Established in 1974**



beginning stages to completion. "When a project takes this long to complete it is very easy for people to get frustrated and begin to think it will never happen," said Dewberry.

While the reduction of paint sludge and reformulation of paints have been recent endeavors, Ceco Door has pursued sustainability for years and throughout its operations and products. All of the cold rolled and specialty steel in production at the facility is sourced from Nucor Steel in Decatur, Alabama and Steel



Dynamics, Inc. in Columbus, MS. Both mills utilize recycled content to produce their finished steel. Ceco Door also employs a recycling or reuse and refurbishing process within the plant where 2-3% of the offal (waste metal) is used to make smaller parts for doors.

Ceco Door purchases 100% recycled cardboard and paper from nearby Pratt Industries. They even attempt to minimize packaging foam board waste through the in-house use of a Styrofoam densifier. Ceco Door also carries an indoor air quality certification from GreenGuard and produces unique energy efficient designs such as Ceco's Thermal Break and Trio-E steel stiffened doors to maximize energy efficiency for customers.

Ceco Door recently joined the [Tennessee Materials Marketplace](#), an interactive online platform created by the

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the United States Business Council for Sustainable Development to facilitate the reuse, recycling and repurposing of discarded materials.

Through source reduction, minimization of hazardous chemicals and repurposing what is normally discarded materials, Ceco Door is an excellent example of the proactive, voluntary actions taken by our Tennessee Green Star Partners to minimize environmental impacts resulting from operations and production. Sustainability is a priority at Ceco Door from the manufacturing floor to materials purchasing and reuse.

The [Tennessee Green Star Partnership](#) is a voluntary environmental leadership program designed to recognize industries in the state that are committed to sustainable practices. If you are interested in joining Ceco Door Products in Milan and other sustainable industries in Tennessee by becoming a member, please contact us.

