Sustainability and Environmental Stewardship at the USPTO

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Background

- USPTO energy and sustainability programs
- Administration priority on *Climate*
- Climate-related executive orders
Reducing waste

• Generated zero waste to landfill
• Donated 2,500+ computer-related items
• Transferred surplus furniture/equipment
• Introduced print management software
Reducing energy consumption

• Optimizing facilities
  – Installed more than 34K LED lamps
  – Vacated excess office space
  – Achieved 10.1% energy reduction (vs FY19)

• Reducing vehicle emissions
  – Replaced gas-powered vehicles with GSA hybrid vehicles
  – Reduced carbon emissions through telework programs
Climate stewardship makes good business sense for the USPTO.

Environmental and resource stewardship:
- Printer management
- Hybrid vehicles
- Furniture and equipment redistribution
- Space consolidation
- LED installation

Financial benefits:
- Reduced paper and toner expense
- Reduced fuel cost
- Auction recoveries and cost deferral via repurposing
- Rent savings
- Reduced utility bills
Additional recent/ongoing sustainability and resiliency efforts

- Internal demand response program (e.g., air conditioning, lighting)
- Data center upgrades and IT disaster recovery
- Telework expansion
Looking ahead

USPTO formed a **Climate Working Group** in March 2021 to review past and current sustainability efforts and explore new opportunities.

**USPTO management initiatives**

- Exploring capital improvements and changes in internal practices to reduce the carbon footprint of the USPTO

**IP policy & operations initiatives**

- Exploring possible updates to USPTO mission-related programs and practices to facilitate “green” innovation
Thank you!

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