

SMUD News Release

Sacramento Municipal Utility District

• News Media Services

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For immediate release

October 22, 2007

Les Schwab Tires wins SMUD award for responsible energy stewardship

SMUD Board recognizes energy-conscious commercial customer

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is honoring Les Schwab Tire Centers for its overall commitment to implementing energy efficiency measures to reduce energy consumption and promote environmental protection.

The SMUD Community Energy Award honors commercial customers who share SMUD's values of efficiency and environmental sensitivity, and who have turned these beliefs into actions. These customers have controlled their energy usage, improved their bottom line, and reduced the amount of energy that must be generated for our region.

This award recognizes the achievement of Les Schwab Tire Centers for participation in SMUD's commercial energy efficiency program.

Les Schwab retrofitted all its stores in the SMUD service area with energy-efficient lighting and occupancy sensors to automatically turn off lights when not in use. This change resulted in peak demand savings of 78.3 kilowatts and energy savings of 419,946 kilowatt hours.

By saving this energy, these projects also prevented air pollution produced by power plants used to generate the energy. The air pollution prevented through these projects is equivalent to the positive effect of planting 78.2 acres of trees per year and removing 50.6 cars from the road for one year.

"Les Schwab Tire Centers is an excellent example of a SMUD customer doing its part to help our community by reducing its energy use," said Larry Carr, SMUD Ward 6 Director. "Hopefully, more customers will follow Les Schwab's lead and take advantage of SMUD programs that can help them save money and benefit the entire community."

The history of Les Schwab Tire Centers began in 1952 with the purchase of a small tire store in Prineville, Oregon by the company's namesake. Today, the company has become one of the leading independent tire dealers in the United States with more than 7,000 employees and 400 stores throughout the Western United States. Ten of those stores are located within SMUD's service territory. The

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2-2-2-2 Les Schwab Tire Centers wins SMUD award

company plans to continue growing by opening 20 new stores each year. Corporate operations remain based in Central Oregon where the company operates one of the largest retreading plants in the country.

To be eligible for the SMUD Community Energy Award, commercial customers must share SMUD's strategic directives in environmental protection and efficient energy use. The customers also incorporate the innovative use of emerging or new energy technologies. One customer is chosen in each of the seven SMUD Board wards.

For more information about SMUD's commercial programs that can save businesses money on electric bills, visit smud.org.

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A print-quality file of the image below is available on request.



Suggested caption: SMUD Board Director Larry Carr (right) presents Les Schwab Tires' Bryce Mahon with a SMUD Community Energy Award. The award honors commercial customers who share SMUD's values of efficiency and environmental sensitivity, and who worked with the utility to turn these beliefs into actions.

