



## OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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### Customer Profile

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Established in 1870, The Ohio State University ranks among the top 20 public universities in the country. Its main campus in Columbus, Ohio, is one of America's largest and most comprehensive. In total, the university has more than 63,000 students.

Ohio State recently completed building its new student union, which replaces the 56-year-old student union that was demolished in 2007. The new \$118 million complex, called the "Ohio Union," is LEED Silver certified and the largest facility of its kind in the country. It is the second building on campus to achieve LEED certification.

The 318,000-square-foot building showcases a grand ballroom, a performance theater, meeting rooms, various facilities to support students and alumni activities, and has multiple dining options.

These dining options include Sloopy's, a 1950s-inspired diner with breakfast available virtually all night; Woody's Tavern offering sheet-pan pizzas and Ohio beer and wine; the Union Market featuring fresh, hand-tossed salads, deli, classic grill and international food stations; and Express-OH serving coffee drinks and gelato.



**“We’ve used Hobart slicers, mixers, warewashers, ovens and other equipment for years, based upon quality. The pulper was new to us, but Hobart walked us through the process and gave us the support documentation and studies to help us better understand how the equipment would help meet our food service sustainability goals.”**

> Tim Keegstra, associate director of university residences and dining services, Ohio State University

## Challenge

The state of Ohio requires that new or renovated buildings must meet LEED Silver standards. To achieve compliance for the Ohio Union, the university needed to incorporate a number of sustainability measures to fulfill LEED credit requirements.

During the design phase, the architects, designers and other LEED professionals were concerned about how large systems, such as HVAC, impacted the building’s environmental footprint but were not as concerned with the foodservice equipment.

Tim Keegstra, associate director of university residences and dining services at Ohio State University, had to persuade architects, designers and university officials of the role foodservice equipment could play in meeting its sustainable design goals. Keegstra also had to educate university officials on how the higher upfront cost of energy-efficient equipment—often a concern of state-funded organizations—would help the university reduce operating costs over the long term.

## Solution

### Objectives

- Maximize foodservice-related sustainability measures to achieve LEED credits, including water-use reduction, innovative design, energy performance and the use of sustainable culinary products.
- Eliminate the burden on municipal water systems and reduce biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and solid waste by replacing garbage disposals with a food-waste pulper system.
- Conserve water and energy by using energy-efficient warewashers.

### Hobart Products Involved

- The **Hobart WastePro™ Pulper** can reduce foodservice waste—including food, paper, plastic and styrofoam—by as much as 88 percent, saving as much as \$17,000 a year in hauling, liner and labor costs while reducing landfill volume.
- Hobart’s **SWS40 transfer pump** virtually eliminates the need for fresh water by pumping used dishwater directly from a warewasher to the pulper.





**“Hobart has helped us ask the correct questions. That’s important. You shouldn’t just be dependent on an architect or even a foodservice consultant. You should have your own contacts, be aware of the trends and ask the right questions.”**

> Tim Keegstra

- The patent-pending ENERGY STAR® qualified Hobart **Advansys™ Ventless Door-Type Warewasher** not only cleans and sanitizes dishware and heavily soiled pots and pans, but it also can save more than \$5,000 in Energy Recovery, reduced HVAC use, and the elimination of a vent hood and fan installation. Using only 0.74 gallons of water per rack, the unit is the first ventless door-type warewasher featuring Energy Recovery.



### Actions Taken

- Hobart consulted with university officials and provided equipment documentation, relevant studies and a demonstration of the pulping process to illustrate the sustainable benefits of a pulper system.
- The Ohio Union was designed with a food-waste pulper system with transfer pump to eliminate the burden on municipal water systems and reduce BOD.
- The university installed three Hobart warewashers throughout the Ohio Union, including an Advansys Ventless door-type warewasher and a flight-type FT924 to manage cleanup from the university’s catering operation.

### Results

- **Attain LEED Silver certification.** The Ohio Union building has met the standards to receive LEED Silver certification from the USGBC. Once certified, the Ohio Union is on tap to be the second building on the Columbus campus to receive this designation.
- **Impacted water use by 30 percent.** Buildings account for 14 percent of potable water use consumption in the United States. The Ohio Union uses water-efficient fixtures throughout the building to reduce water consumption by 30 percent when compared to an average building of its size.
- **Impacted energy use by 20 percent.** Buildings account for 39 percent of energy use in the United States. The Ohio Union employs energy-efficient systems and uses 20 percent less energy than an average building of its size.





**“One of the biggest design challenges was the distance between the kitchens and the docks. We were dealing with a 475-foot length of run and could only move food waste on the north side of the building. This required integrating multiple systems with one extractor. We felt very comfortable that Hobart engineers and equipment could accomplish this within the provided parameters.”**

> Tad Domek, vice president and project consultant, Robert Pacifico Associates

- **Divert 100 percent of back-of-house waste.** Using the Hobart pulper, Ohio State University diverts 100 percent of its back-of-house waste from the waste stream. It also reduces demand for municipal water by pumping used dishwater directly from the warewasher to the pulper.
- **Support a large catering operation.** The Ohio Union features the third largest ballroom in Columbus. Having the Hobart Flight-Type Warewasher and pulper system close by helps staff efficiently clean and manage the large amount of china used during catering events.
- **Lower the risk of cross-contamination.** Pulp is removed from the building via pipes, not in garbage bags or carts. This system reduces the likelihood of cross-contamination from waste coming into contact with food during transport from the kitchen to the back dock.
- **Better prepare hospitality students for the real world.** As part of the university’s hospitality program, the Ohio Union houses a hospitality program with six training stations stocked with Hobart equipment. Having a training facility with such equipment helps better prepare students for what they are likely to experience in actual hospitality and foodservice operations.





**Hobart is the world's premier commercial food equipment and service provider for the foodservice and food retail industries.**

Hobart manufactures products for refrigeration; warewashing and waste handling; food preparation; baking; cooking; and weighing, wrapping and labeling systems. To learn more about Hobart, visit [www.hobartcorp.com](http://www.hobartcorp.com).



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