

# CASE STUDY



## UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA - DAVIS

### CASE STUDY: UC DAVIS

HYDRATIONSTATION™ PROVIDES COST SAVINGS FOR STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS.



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## **HYDRATIONSTATION™ PROVIDES COST SAVINGS FOR STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA IN DAVIS.**

*UC Davis  
Davis, California*

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### **BACKGROUND**

It is universal acceptance that higher education is a costly but worthwhile expense. Lowering the overall cost for students is a major goal of universities everywhere. The University of California, Davis, is no exception. UC Davis is one of ten public campuses in the University of California System and was ranked as the 11th best public university in the United States in 2009. Established in 1905, UC Davis is located in North East California, spans over 5,500 acres and supports 31,426 students. As is common with most colleges, a large part of the UC Davis student population receives financial aid to help pay for their college tuition and every day expenses.

### **OBJECTIVE**

With many students on strict budgets because of limited incomes, counting every dollar is important. Consumers are paying up to 10,000 times more for bottled water than tap water (average cost of \$1.50) and given the estimated daily water requirement of 64 ounces, a student could spend upwards of \$2,000 a year on bottled water alone. Because UC Davis has a commitment to empowering its student body to adopt the best practices and options for students, university staff had a desire to tackle two common issues - eliminate one-use water bottle usage to decrease environmental impact and provide low-cost alternatives to students.

### **SOLUTION**

UC Davis researched several "bottle filler" spouts before deciding on the HydrationStation™ by Haws. "The HydrationStation provided a simple way to fill personal containers with filtered drinking water," says UC Davis staff. UC Davis will be installing a unit in each of their 36 residence halls and in the university's three dining cafeterias. "We are doing this out of a desire to be 'green' and to reduce the whole non-sustainable cycle that bottled water creates. Shipping, bottling, waste stream... this will save our residents money since they won't have to buy bottled water," says UC Davis staff members. In order to raise awareness, UC Davis will include HydrationStation information in their various on-campus publications and e-mail blasts; in addition, they will promote the units via Resident Advisors and Sustainability Interns.

### **RESULTS**

The HydrationStation hooks up to the municipal water line and provides users with filtered water at a rate of 0.8 gallons per minute and with filters lasting approximately 6 months or 2,500 gallons. The 39 units will ultimately produce at least 5,000 gallons each or 195,000 gallons total per year, roughly equating a total of 11,538 water bottles at an estimated total cost savings of \$17,316 per year. With the initial positive reaction from students and staff, UC Davis is confident that by placing the HydrationStation in well traveled locations their visibility will create more awareness thereby serving the ultimate goal of providing sustainable, low-cost options for students.

### **ABOUT HAWS**

Haws Corporation designs, manufactures and distributes drinking fountains and emergency equipment that are ranked #1 in quality by specifiers in both product categories.

