



Wellborn Cabinet Factory

2,000,000 Sq. Ft. Facility, Ashland, AL

An Elkay Drinking Water Case Study

ELKAY CASE STUDY

Elkay Bottle Filling Stations: A Cost-Friendly,
Sustainable Solution for Better Hydration

Wellborn Cabinet, Inc., Ashland, AL

Building Supplies

1,000 – 5,000 Employees

2,000,000 Square-Foot Facility



“When you’re spending \$100,000 on the annual basis to deliver water for the employees for their well-being, and now all of a sudden, you can do it for a third of the cost, I mean, it’s a no brainer.”

Pres Jenkins

*Director of Human Resources at
Wellborn Cabinet, Inc.*

CUSTOMER

Wellborn Cabinet, Inc.

PRODUCTS USED

Elkay® ezH2O® Floor Standing Bottle Filling Stations
Elkay ezH2O Surface Mount Bottle Filling Stations

THE CHALLENGE

Wellborn Cabinet, Inc. is a family-owned and operated kitchen and bath cabinetry manufacturer that’s been in business since 1961. Their 2-million-square-foot facility is in Ashland, Alabama, where temperatures are often very hot both inside and outside the building.



With employee safety top of mind, Wellborn provided bottled water for their staff of 1,300 employees; however, delivering and storing the water came with many complications. Palletized water was expensive, costing upwards of \$85,000 a year. To keep the water cold, 16 free-standing refrigerators were rented at an additional cost, taking up valuable space in the facility. Employees were also leaving empty or partially filled plastic bottles all over the building. It was clear a solution was needed, something that was both cost efficient and sustainable.

THE SOLUTION

Wellborn installed 13 floor standing and 13 surface mount Elkay ezH2O bottle filling stations, saving more than \$107,000 per year and eliminating plastic bottle waste. Placed strategically throughout their facility, these stations allowed Wellborn employees to access cold water no matter where they were working. “I can go get my water and come back before my work comes down without having anyone to replace me,” said one factory worker.

EASY INSTALLATION

Wellborn also saved by installing the bottle filling stations in-house.

T. Colley, Maintenance Manager at Wellborn, said his team of 22 workers had little to no issues installing the units themselves. “[The stations] are pretty easy to install,” he said, making specific reference to how easy it was to change the filters. “It tells you when the filter needs to be replaced,” he said, which takes the guesswork out of filter replacement, particularly for those stations that get used more than others.

“What is most impressive is when you go by the water station and you see the numbers of bottles saved. That is something that actually is...refreshing.”

Pres Jenkins

*Director of Human Resources at
Wellborn Cabinet, Inc.*



SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Elkay's mission to provide sustainable solutions also fit with Wellborn's sustainability goals. “When we made the decision to install these Elkay water stations, it aligned perfectly because we were generating a lot of plastic bottles that were all over the place,” said Jenkins. “And again, in the spirit of sustainability, we felt that it was by far most effective for people to reuse their own personal cup instead of having plastic bottles all over the place. So that perfectly aligns with what we try to do here at Wellborn Cabinet.”

The team at Wellborn was also quick to suggest Elkay bottle filling stations to the owners of other large footprint industrial manufacturers: “They're easy to maintain, easy to clean, and I can assure you that it will provide water quality for your employees,” said Jenkins.



“[The stations] are very easy to maintain. It's the type of thing that holistically makes a lot of sense.”

Pres Jenkins

*Director of Human Resources at
Wellborn Cabinet, Inc.*

Visit elkay.com/filtration to learn more about bringing better hydration to your facility.

by Zurn Elkay Water Solutions

ELKAY

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