



GENERAL ELECTRIC CASTS A LIGHT ON ENERGY SAVINGS

December 2007, Rutland, Vt. — The goal was relatively straightforward: replace the old and outdated lighting in General Electric's (GE) two Rutland facilities with new energy efficient alternatives.

The energy savings that resulted were tremendous: more than \$127,000 a year.

"It was clear that this project would pay for itself in a short period of time and also provide future savings for years to come," said Charles Barker, facility engineer at GE. Barker added that the lighting upgrades were part of GE's Ecomagination program, an organizational-wide initiative aimed at developing clean technologies and business practices.

After the launch of Ecomagination in the summer of 2005, GE partnered with Efficiency Vermont, the statewide energy efficiency utility, to explore how to make its Rutland facilities more energy efficient. Efficiency Vermont recommended initially focusing on lighting, which typically offers businesses the biggest opportunity for energy savings. In this case, the lighting upgrades also helped improve the manufacturing process by providing a healthier working environment.

"This project is a shining example of how investing in energy efficiency can pay big dividends," said Greg Baker, senior project manager at Efficiency Vermont. "The installations were made with minimal interruption to GE's productivity, and employees have already begun benefiting from the brighter working conditions."

Barker of GE agreed. "As well as being energy efficient, the new lighting improved visibility on the shop floor. Our employees were very pleased with the brighter environment and we are confident that it will lead to production improvements. I think this project changed a lot of people's perceptions about the quality of energy efficient lighting."

Efficiency Vermont helped GE replace all its lighting fixtures with high-efficiency T8s in both facilities, which are used to manufacture aircraft engine components. The T8s were purchased and installed in partnership with GE Supply and Amtech Lighting and Electrical Services. Efficiency Vermont also provided technical expertise and significant financial incentives throughout the evaluation and installation process, which lasted approximately 6 months from start to completion.

Going forward, GE continues to work with Efficiency Vermont to investigate additional ways in which the company can become more energy efficient. Since its inception in 2005, GE has 45 Ecomagination-certified products in its portfolio with revenues reaching USD12 billion.

Efficiency Vermont was created by the Vermont Legislature and the Vermont Public Service Board to help all Vermonters reduce energy costs, strengthen the economy, and protect Vermont's environment. Efficiency Vermont is currently operated by Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC), an independent organization under contract to the Vermont Public Service Board. VEIC is a Vermont-based, nonprofit organization founded in 1986. For more information, contact Efficiency Vermont at 888-921-5990 or visit www.encyvermont.com.

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