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Lakeside Foods Wins Focus on Energy Award for Excellence in
Energy Efficiency

- Focus on Energy recognizes Lakeside Foods for energy efficiency improvements -

BELGIUM, Wis. (February 2, 2007) – Lakeside Foods, a Belgium, Wisconsin-based business has received an Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency given by Focus on Energy for the implementation of innovative energy efficiency projects within its business. With the help of Focus on Energy’s Industrial Sector, part of Wisconsin’s energy efficiency and renewable energy initiative, Lakeside Foods made a significant energy efficiency improvement. Faced with a decision to re-tube their existing water-tube boiler or purchase new, more expensive, fire-tube boilers with stack economizers and blow down heat recovery, Lakeside Foods decided on the more energy efficient option with the higher up front costs. A Focus on Energy financial incentive of \$42,300 helped to offset the investment in the high efficiency boilers, which will ultimately save more than \$85,000 per year in energy costs for Lakeside.

“The Focus on Energy incentive was very helpful with obtaining project approval,” said Al Simanovski, general manager at the Lakeside Foods facility in Belgium. “The new boilers have increased both plant operational effectiveness and productivity, which is why we recently invited Cliff Arntzen, an energy advisor from Focus on Energy to meet with our operational employees to identify additional energy efficiency improvements at our facility.”

Since 2001, Focus on Energy has delivered cost effective energy solutions to Wisconsin consumers, farms and businesses. The results for businesses have meant lower operating costs and an improved bottom line as holds true for Lakeside Foods. In total, businesses in Wisconsin have saved about \$75,000,000 in energy costs annually.

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“We are proud to present Lakeside Foods’ Belgium facility with the Focus on Energy Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency,” said John Nicol, sector manager for Focus on Energy’s Industrial Program. “Their leadership in energy efficiency will benefit not only their business but also the environment, the community and other businesses by keeping future energy prices down. By cutting its natural gas consumption for these boilers at no cost to production, Lakeside’s Belgium plant has also effectively removed 800 tons of carbon dioxide per year from its emissions, the equivalent of cutting the emissions of 120 cars and saving enough gas to heat 140 homes.”

Industrial manufacturing facilities have numerous opportunities to save money through energy efficiency. Focus on Energy initiatives help industrial customers identify and evaluate energy saving opportunities, provide a report of findings with specific recommendations, develop an energy management plan, integrate elements from national and state programs to meet specific needs, find vendors and evaluate their proposals for efficiency improvements and arrange technical training opportunities about energy efficient processes and procedures. In addition, Focus on Energy provides specialized best practice support for the pulp and paper, metal casting, plastics, food/dairy and water/wastewater industries.

For more information about saving opportunities at other industrial manufacturing facilities or Focus on Energy’s Business Programs, call Focus on Energy at 800.762.7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

About Lakeside Foods

Lakeside Foods initiated Wisconsin’s commercial canning industry with the first plant built in 1887. The company now has plants and distribution centers devoted to producing high quality canned and frozen vegetables, meats, beverages and whipped toppings, located in 12 cities throughout Wisconsin and Minnesota. Lakeside’s 200,000 square foot facility in Belgium, built in 1988, produces canned beans, beets, potatoes and stew vegetables in addition to coffee, soup and hot chocolate.

About Focus on Energy

Focus on Energy works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Focus information, resources and financial incentives help to implement projects that otherwise would not get completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Its efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, promote in-state economic development, protect our environment and control the state’s growing demand for electricity and natural gas. For more information call 800.762.7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

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