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..... **for immediate release** .....

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## **Cascades Tissue Group Wins Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency**

*-Focus on Energy recognizes Cascades Tissue Group - Wisconsin for energy efficiency improvements -*

**Eau Claire, Wis. (February 7, 2007)** – Cascades Tissue Group - Wisconsin, an Eau Claire-based business has received a Focus on Energy Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency for the implementation of innovative energy efficiency projects within their business. With the help of Focus on Energy’s Industrial Sector, part of Wisconsin’s energy efficiency and renewable energy initiative, Cascades Tissue Group made a number of energy efficiency improvements, including process heat recovery, saving more than \$187,000 in energy costs per year.

A condensing stack heat exchanger was added to the main steam boiler to capture most of the energy escaping up the chimney. The recovered energy now heats make-up water for the boiler, resulting in an annual natural gas savings of over 156,000 therms. The steam from the boiler is used in the paper making process, as well as to heat the facility. The current boiler is 83 percent efficient, and the condensing stack heat exchanger will add an average of 3.5 percent savings. The heat exchanger has the ability to save as much as seven percent at higher flow rates. A Teflon-covered, copper-nickel system was selected over a unit with bare metal copper-nickel due to corrosive operating conditions in the condensing heat exchanger. The heat recovery system is manufactured by Steam Plant Systems of New York and distributed by Power Process of Chanhassen, Minnesota. Focus on Energy provided technical assistance and a \$40,000 financial incentive to help offset the capital investment.

“Cascades is always looking for improvements to save energy, increase production, and improve the environment. Every year we have been able to move forward with such projects with the help of Focus on Energy,” said Cascades Tissue’s Eau Claire plant manager, Claude Marois.

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**CASCADES TISSUE GROUP WINS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY**  
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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 Cascades Tissue Group. In total, businesses in Wisconsin have saved about \$75,000,000 in energy costs annually.

Working with Focus on Energy over the past five years, the Cascades Tissue plant in Eau Claire has implemented 15 energy efficiency projects, including boiler improvements, HVAC controls, building insulation, compressed air systems, vacuum systems, lighting systems and process improvements. Having taken advantage of many of Focus on Energy's energy efficiency training opportunities in steam, compressed air and energy management, the plant regularly looks for opportunities to save energy. Several more energy efficiency projects are planned. To date, Focus on Energy has provided almost \$85,000 in financial incentives, which has helped Cascades save an estimated 775,000 therms, more than 500,000 kWh and 50 kW of power plant capacity, an admirable achievement that equates to \$650,000 in energy cost savings.

"We are proud to present the Cascades Tissue Group's Eau Claire plant 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 other businesses by reducing the pressure on energy supplies and keeping future energy prices down. By cutting its natural gas consumption for these boilers at no cost to production, Cascades Tissue's Eau Claire facility has effectively removed over 900 tons of carbon dioxide annually from its emissions, the equivalent of cutting the emissions from 130 cars. The gas savings are enough to heat about 160 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.

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For more information about savings 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](http://focusonenergy.com).

**About Cascades Tissue Group**

Cascades Tissue Group is a major producer of tissue paper for the retail, commercial and institutional, and jumbo roll markets. The Cascades Tissue plant in Eau Claire is one of 14 plants in the United States and Canada. They offer customers a vast array of quality and value paper products, servicing a customer base that spans across Canada and the United States. Cascades Tissue Group's performance ranks among the best in the industry in North America. To maintain its position as leader in its field, the company is committed to developing products that continue to outperform the competition, and to remaining at the leading edge of technology.

**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](http://focusonenergy.com).

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