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**Cortec Coated Products “Recovers” \$170,000 from
Innovative Heat-Recovery System**

- Focus on Energy provides \$99,000 to boost energy saving efforts -

Madison, Wis. (July 9, 2009) – Since being acquired in 2001, Cortec Coated Products in Eau Claire, Wis. has prided itself on finding smart business solutions. The manufacturer has built on its knowledge and experience to become a global supplier and forerunner in the coated paper and film industry. With the help of Focus on Energy, Wisconsin’s energy efficiency and renewable energy initiative, Cortec Coated Products has also been able to build on Focus’ knowledge and experience to become a leader in energy efficiency.

Cortec Coated Products received \$99,000 in financial incentives from Focus on Energy after installing an innovative heat-recovery system and plant-wide lighting and steam trap upgrades. These improvements will save the company more than 223,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity and 175,000 therms of natural gas annually – enough energy to power 200 Wisconsin homes for a year. The company will also benefit from \$210,000 in savings on its energy bills each year.



The biggest energy saver is a unique heat-recovery system installed last month that provides extraordinary energy savings. The system captures “waste” heat from the facility’s oven exhaust system and instead of venting that hot air outside of the facility; the system extracts heat from the outgoing air and returns it to the oven inlet to

start the process again. Reusing this heat enables the manufacturer to significantly reduce its natural gas use and saves \$170,000 a year. Focus on Energy awarded \$82,000 to help get the project off the ground and also provided \$2,400 prior to install so a feasibility study could be completed to assure significant energy savings.

Additionally, Cortec Coated Products recently upgraded more than 75 standard light fixtures to high-performance T8 fixtures in its 56,000-square-foot facility. A high-performance T8 system can save up to 40 percent more energy and last 4,000 hours longer than a standard system because it uses advanced high-lumen, long-life T8 lamp and low-ballast-factor electronic ballast. This combination results in strong energy savings without reducing light output.

Cortec Coated Products has also attended Focus on Energy training sessions over the years to keep energy savings and high efficiency at the forefront of its operation.

“It took us a few years to implement the heat-recovery system. The cost savings are great, but we had to spend the money to save the money,” said Mike Galatowitsch, plant manager at Cortec Coated Products. “We have a corporate-wide initiative to save energy and help our environment, and with the help of Focus on Energy we are able to do so.”

Not only do these upgrades save Cortec Coated Products money, but they are also environmentally friendly. The annual environmental benefits are equivalent to offsetting 3,500 barrels of oil from being burned – eliminating 2.4 million pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) from being released into the atmosphere.

“Heat-recovery systems offer incredible savings to facilities of all sizes,” said Ken Williams, Focus on Energy’s business programs director. “It’s amazing to see how much heat can be reused—providing businesses with free energy.”

Focus on Energy can help businesses and residents across the state identify and evaluate energy-saving opportunities, provide specific recommendations, develop energy management plans, arrange technical training opportunities about energy conservation and offer financial incentives.

For more information, call (800) 762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com.

About Cortec Coated Products

Cortec Coated Products is an Eau Claire, Wis. manufacturer of coated specialty paper, board and film products for the printing and packaging industry. With a highly trained staff of chemists and engineers, Cortec Coated Products has a culture of high standards and superior customer service. For more information, visit corteccoatedproducts.com.

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 be 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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