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**PHILLIPS PLASTICS WINS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

*- Focus on Energy recognizes Phillips Plastics for energy efficiency improvements -*

**EAU CLAIRE, Wis. (August 15, 2006)** – Phillips Plastics (Multi-shot) an Eau Claire-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 their business. With the help of Focus on Energy’s Industrial Sector, part of Wisconsin’s energy efficiency and renewable energy initiative, Phillips Plastics (Multi-shot) - Eau Claire made a number of energy efficiency improvements including adding a chiller and variable frequency drives to their cooling tower, as well as performing compressed air system leak assessments and heating/cooling system tune ups, saving more than \$34,000 in energy costs annually at the Eau Claire facility alone. Companywide Phillips Plastics, which has other locations throughout the state, has saved over \$112,000 in annual energy costs since 2002. Additionally, the company has been involved in Focus on Energy sponsored training courses.

The most recent project involved a chiller upgrade at the Eau Claire location. To date, this facility has been awarded \$44,000 in financial incentives from Xcel Energy and Focus on Energy for installing qualifying energy efficiency measures.

“With the new global economy, competition has become intense. Companies need to take advantage of every opportunity they need to survive, and energy efficiency is a prime example. Working with Focus on Energy on energy improvements has helped us bring our manufacturing costs down. We currently looking at energy improvements with lighting and compressed air projects” said Frank Rushmann Facility Mgr.

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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 Phillips Plastics. In total, businesses in Wisconsin have saved about \$40,000,000 in energy costs annually.

“We are proud to present Phillips Plastics with our Award for Excellence in Energy Efficiency,” said Dean Laube energy advisor 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 our energy’s future.”

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

### **About Focus on Energy’s Business Programs**

Focus on Energy’s Business Programs encourages energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy while targeting commercial businesses, industrial, agricultural and school and local government operations throughout Wisconsin. The Industrial Sector of the Focus on Energy Business Program helps manufacturing facilities of all sizes improve the energy efficiency of existing facilities along with planning for and implementing new projects, expansions or renovations. For more information, call 800.762.7077 or visit [focusonenergy.com](http://focusonenergy.com).

### **About Focus on Energy Business Programs**

Focus on Energy, a statewide service, works with eligible Wisconsin residents and businesses to install cost-effective energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. We provide technical expertise, training and financial incentives to help implement innovative energy management projects. We place emphasis on helping implement projects that otherwise would not get completed, or to complete projects sooner than scheduled. Our efforts help Wisconsin residents and businesses manage rising energy costs, protect our environment and control the state's growing demand for electricity and natural gas.