

Press Release



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Bangor Savings Receives \$21,700 in Cash Incentives from Efficiency Maine

Augusta, ME (May 1, 2006) – By now most Maine businesses and residents have heard about Efficiency Maine, a statewide effort to promote the more efficient use of electricity to help reduce energy costs and improve Maine’s environment.

Under the Efficiency Maine business program, participating companies receive cash incentives for upgrading equipment or installing retrofits.

The downtown corporate office of Bangor Savings Bank, located in the five-story Bacon Building, was a prime candidate for Efficiency Maine upgrades. The building’s inefficient 17-year-old ventilation system had essentially failed, leaving the bank with little ability to control the heating or cooling.

Bill Pelkey, assistant vice president and facilities manager for the bank, was getting calls from employees that the temperature in the five-story Bacon Building was either too hot or too cold. “The ventilation system was running wild,” says Pelkey

The bank’s long relationship with Mechanical Services of Portland, which maintains half of the bank’s HVAC systems, paid off. Mechanical Services is a ‘program ally’ of Efficiency Maine, belonging to a network of more than 300 wholesalers, manufacturers, retailers and contractors throughout the state that work with Efficiency Maine to promote and install energy efficient electric equipment that meet program guidelines.

Bernie Seay, regional manager for Mechanical Services, told the Bangor Savings about the Efficiency Maine business program, and even provided application forms.

The bank made ‘lots of control changes’ according to Pelkey, including the installation of a new variable speed motor to help to control electricity.

In the first month following installation, the bank saved \$1200 on its electric bill. It’s too soon to predict exactly what the long term cost savings will be, but Pelkey expects the savings to

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increase even more. In the best news of all, the bank received \$21,702.80 in cash incentives from Efficiency Maine by installing the approved, energy efficient equipment.

Pelkey adds that the Efficiency Maine process was easy and fast. “We learned about the program in the fall, and had the new system up and running in January. It was a very quick process; even the paperwork was simple. Now the temperatures in the building are more comfortable, and the employees are much more content.”

Efficiency Maine is funded by electricity consumers and administered by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. Schools, businesses, nonprofits and wastewater facilities can participate in the Efficiency Maine program. Information about the program and types of electricity-saving devices are available online at www.energymaine.com or by calling toll-free, 1-866-376-2463.

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