



Wisconsin DNR News Release

Phillips Plastics Corporation Precision Decorating joins Green Tier

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Contact(s): Mark Harings, DNR, 715-831-3263
Leslie Lagerstrom, Phillips Plastics Corporation, 715-262-8000

MEDFORD – Phillips Plastics Corporation® Precision Decorating today joined the Department of Natural Resources' nationally recognized Green Tier program that helps businesses make economic strides with environmentally friendly methods.



A Green Tier flag now flies proudly at the Phillips Plastics Corporation Precision Decorating plant in Medford as the facility was officially welcomed today into the state's Green Tier program. The flag is a symbol of the corporations commitment to business practices that protect the natural resources of the area.

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DNR Secretary Matt Frank commended Phillips Plastics leaders for their commitment to business practices that protect the natural resources of the greater community.

"By investing in energy-saving technology, increasing their recycling and waste reduction activities, Precision Decorating has significantly reduced environmental impacts while helping their budget," Frank said of the state company specializing in custom injection molding of

plastic, metal, ceramic and silicone. "Their smart strategies demonstrate what can be accomplished when business and environmental goals come together."

Gov. Jim Doyle signed Green Tier into law in 2004 to encourage a collaborative approach to environmental performance between the DNR and Wisconsin businesses. As part of Green Tier, Wisconsin organizations voluntarily commit to reduce their environmental footprint by developing and implementing environmental management systems. These systems act as a map, presenting organizations options for new technologies and practices to continually improve environmental performance.

Medford Mayor Mike Wellner and Precision Decorating's Dave Wolf raised a Green Tier flag in front of the facility as part of today's ceremony, attended by Phillips Plastics people and other local officials and business leaders. Last year, Green Tier flags were raised at Phillips Plastics Corporation Phillips Medical-New Richmond, Phillips Medical (Menomonie), Metal Injection Molding (Menomonie) and Multi-Shot (Eau Claire) as they joined Green Tier.

The Precision Decorating facility offers plastic molding and assembly of parts as well as decorative laser etching and painting processes. The facility maintains an Environmental Management System, certified to ISO 14001.

Investments in technology help reduce environmental impacts at the Medford facility. In August 2007, Precision Decorating installed a solvent still to reduce the amount of hazardous waste. The still reclaims solvents used in the painting process.

About 1,650 gallons of solvent now can be reused for a savings of more than \$8,900 per month. Precision Decorating's Regenerative Thermal Oxidizer (RTO) is another technology that is helping by reducing VOC (volatile organic compound) emissions. The system lowers operating cost by recovering energy to pre-heat incoming process air to high temperatures, turning VOCs into carbon dioxide and water vapor. Kevin Jensen, Operations Managers remarks, "Several years ago we installed the RTO system to reduce the VOCs we were emitting. We found this not only helped in saving the environment, but also allowed us to paint exotic paints for new customers. Along with cutting costs, these projects help strengthen the health of our culture and community. Green Tier and Wisconsin's environmental programs have helped make us a steward of the environment and these are the things that make people want to come live in Wisconsin."

Precision Decorating maintains an extensive recycling program to reduce its solid waste, reviews all new projects and parts for possible emissions and recyclability, and strongly encourages their people to be environmental stewards beyond the work place. As a Green Tier participant, Precisions Decorating will continue to utilize ideas and methods generated by their people to improve their environmental performance.

Phillips Plastics Corporation recently made energy their main target and realized very significant reductions in energy consumption. With lighting revamped in 2007, this facility has reduced its energy use by 411,707 kWh with greater reductions forecasted in 2009. "The people at Precision Decorating have worked hard over the years to achieve environmental excellence and it is clearly demonstrated in the day-to-day actions that take place at the

facility. As a Company, we have made it an objective to achieve Green Tier Participant status for all EMS covered facilities. Thus far, Precision Decorating will be the seventh facility to achieve this designation and it is through the efforts of all of our people that we achieved this designation,” comments Dan Andersen, Health, Safety, and Environmental Manager.

Two other Phillips Plastics Corporation facilities, located in Phillips, Wis., recently submitted their applications to become Green Tier participants.

Green Tier celebrations have garnered several new ideas from Phillips Plastics employees to improve environmental performance. For example, during a Green Tier flag raising ceremony at one facility, an idea of creating a mixed-plastics recycle stream surfaced. The plastics recycler was on site, and was able to discuss the idea. Now all Phillips Plastics Corporation facilities in Green Tier have this mixed recycle stream and it has greatly reduced the amount of plastic wastes going to landfills.

The Phillips Plastics Corporation Precision Decorating facility is a Tier 1 participant in Green Tier. In exchange for a commitment to superior environmental performance the DNR grants benefits to Tier 1 participants including annual recognition, a logo used by all Green Tier companies and a collaborative relationship to assure compliance and superior environmental performance. DNR and Phillips Plastics Corporation see this relationship as an advantage for both business and the environment.

For more on Green Tier and Phillips Plastics Corporation’s efforts, visit [Phillips Plastics's Green Tier](#).



A Green Tier plaque was presented to the Phillips Plastics Corporation Precision Decorating plant today in Medford from the Department of Natural Resources. On hand at the presentation were (from left) Medford Mayor, Mike Wellner, Mark Kind, Dan Andersen, Jason Grendahl all of Phillips Plastics, DNR Northern Region Director, John Gozdziwski, Dan

Guido - ERM, State Rep. Mary Williams, Mark Harings - DNR, and Dave Wolf of Phillips
Plastics.
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