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Phillips Plastics plants raise Green Tier flags

Special to the Herald

MENOMONIE — Two high-technology Phillips Plastics Corporation facilities — Phillips Medical and Metal Injection Molding — raised Green Tier flags Thursday as they joined other, forward thinking companies that make environmental responsibility a part of their corporate culture.

The flags are a symbol of the company's commitment to go above and beyond government rules and regulations to reduce the impact of manufacturing on the environment.

Phillips Plastics Corporation is a native Wisconsin company, specializing in custom injection molding of plastic, metal, ceramic and silicone.

"Phillips Plastics Corporation is demonstrating its community business leadership today," DNR Secretary Matt Frank said. "By raising the Green Tier flags at its two high-tech facilities, Phillips Plastics is demonstrating its commitment to environmental excellence and economic growth. The two go hand-in-hand."

The people of Phillips Plastics simultaneously raised three new Green Tier flags at their Menomonie campus, generating cheers from assembled Phillips people and visiting dignitaries. Earlier this year a flag was raised at the Phillips Medical-New Richmond facility when it was first accepted into the Green Tier program.

The Phillips Medical facility consists of three buildings manufacturing products for the medical and pharmaceutical industries. Their Environment-al Management System, ISO 14001 certified since 2001, focuses on employee education, waste reduction, recycling and energy use. Recent energy efficient lighting upgrades have lead to a 3.76 million kWh reduction in electrical consumption per year.

Metal Injection Molding is a 30,000-square-foot facility that manufactures high precision stainless steel components using state-of-the-art techniques.

Like Phillips Medical, Metal Injection Molding 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 Green Tier participants, managers at both facilities plan to utilize ideas and methods generated by employees to continually improve their environmental performance.

“From the beginning, Phillips Plastics Corporation has not only strived to be a leader in technologies and processes, but also in environmental stewardship. It has taken Phillips Plastics’ commitment, along with our environmental partners, to achieve this award,” said Skip Swanson, Metal Injection Molding Plant Manager.

Governor 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.

Both Phillips Plastics Corporation facilities, Phillips Medical and Metal Injection Molding, are Tier 1 participants 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.

Source: Wisconsin DNR

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