



Leading the Way to a Brighter Future

[About](#) / [Contact](#) / [Documents & Services](#) / [Links](#) / [FAQs](#) / [Qualified Partners](#) / [Glossary](#) / [Opportunities](#) / [Sitemap](#) / [Home](#)

[At Home](#) / [At Work](#) / [Renewable Energy](#) / [Education](#) / [Professional Training](#) / [News & Events](#) / [In Your Community](#)



[Home](#) > [News](#) > [Energy Efficiency Makes Maine Company More Competitive](#)

NEWS

EVENTS

Recent Articles

- 10.25.10 [Energy Improvements Will Save Madison Paper \\$2 Million Annually](#)
- 10.25.10 [Heating Oil Cost Control](#)
- 10.18.10 [Energy Efficiency Makes Maine Company More Competitive](#)

Older Articles

- 10.18.10 [EIA Winter Fuels Outlook Predicts Higher Heating Oil Prices](#)
- 10.13.10 [Scarborough Fire Department to Save Energy and Money](#)
- 10.12.10 [Columbus Day Signals Beginning of Heating Season in Maine](#)

News Categories

- [General News \(37\)](#)
- [HESP News \(0\)](#)
- [OEIS \(18\)](#)

In The News

Energy Efficiency Makes Maine Company More Competitive

10.18.10

Efficiency Maine has just finalized a grant contract with [GAC Chemical](#) in Searsport for \$314,000 that will allow the company to complete a \$630,000 full-facility energy retrofit. GAC manufactures and distributes specialty chemicals to a worldwide market. The company is the largest industrial manufacturer in Waldo County, employing 60 people.

The energy project will keep these jobs in Waldo County and make GAC more competitive with companies outside of Maine with lower costs, according to Company President David Colter. "GAC competes in a national and international marketplace, and the purpose of this project is twofold: to reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency, which in turn will strengthen our long-term stability," said Colter. "Without the support of Efficiency Maine this project would not be possible".

To keep GAC Chemical competitive, Colter has been strategizing ways to lower operating expenses. Last year GAC partnered with Honeywell's Automation and Control Solutions division to identify opportunities for savings through energy efficiency improvements.

The project will save approximately 275,000 gallons of #6 fuel oil, enough oil to heat 247 homes for a year, and 223,861 kWh of electricity, which would power 35 homes for a year. To get these savings, GAC Chemical will be installing new systems to recycle steam from the manufacturing processes to heat water. The retrofit also includes optimizing boiler controls, updating lighting and insulating pipes throughout the plant.

"GAC Chemical was among the top projects in a very competitive round of funding," stated Ian Burnes, Program Manager at Efficiency Maine. "GAC was awarded the grant on the basis of their energy savings, the private matching dollars they contributed and the impact on the company's long term economic sustainability."

Funding for this grant was made possible by the [Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative](#) (or RGGI). RGGI is an innovative effort by ten states stretching from Maine to Maryland to reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions that contribute to climate change globally. RGGI has delivered significant new investments in energy efficiency and clean energy programs that reduce energy costs, increase and protect jobs, grow the economy, and help Maine become more energy independent.

Efficiency Maine is a statewide program that promotes the more efficient use of energy, helps Maine residents and businesses reduce energy costs to improve Maine's economy and environment. For more information about business programs offered through Efficiency Maine [click here](#).



[At Home](#) | [At Work](#) | [Renewable Energy](#) | [Education](#) | [Professional Training](#) | [News & Events](#) | [In Your Community](#) | [Home](#)

Efficiency Maine • 19 State House Station • Augusta, Maine 04333-0019

Efficiency Maine is located at 101 Second Street, Hallowell, ME 04347 • 1-866-376-2463 • FAX: (207) 287-1039 • TTY: (207) 287-3831