

CURRENTS

Success Stories of the New York Energy \$martSM Program

Volume 3 Issue 2 September 2003

NYSERDA Launches New Web Portal

To keep up with the demand for timely information, NYSERDA's New York Energy \$martSM Program has launched a new look for its www.GetEnergySmart.org website.

The updated website promotes practical energy awareness and program information to consumers, energy contractors and businesses. NYSERDA estimates that New Yorkers can cut their home energy costs by up to 40% by participating in New York Energy \$martSM Programs and implementing energy-saving practices found within the site. In addition to offering a single access point to obtain energy-related information from many diverse sources, the new website provides NYSERDA a way to determine actual consumer interest and demand for its programs.



Peter R. Smith, acting NYSERDA president, said, "We have a vision of promoting energy efficiency in New York State by using the Web as a cost-effective approach to reaching millions of residents. The GetEnergySmart.org site plays an integral role in many of our programs. I am confident that our new web portal will offer better service and information to the residents of New York State."

The new site was developed by LPA Systems who selected Cool:i:mania Productions of Fairport, NY, to provide creative design, content development, online branding and Internet marketing strategy. The site is built on BEA Systems portal technology.

Donald Soule, LPA Systems president, said, "We are pleased with our rapid implementation of this project with NYSERDA, certainly one of the more technically forward-thinking organizations we have worked with."



Keep Current... Online!

You can begin receiving an electronic version of CURRENTS online starting with the next issue. Get information faster, and help us reduce printing and mailing costs. To opt for online delivery, simply e-mail your name and address to nyserdacurrents@light-power.com.

State of New York
George E. Pataki
Governor

NEW YORK STATE
ENERGY RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Vincent A. Delorio, Esq.
Chairman

Peter R. Smith
Acting President

NYSERDA

17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399

toll free 1-866-NYSERDA
local (518) 862-1090
fax (518) 862-1091
www.nyserda.org

SAVING ENERGY AND RESOURCES Through Remanufacturing

The United States rapidly consumes natural resources and generates waste. While alternative and renewable resources and energy are needed as population and industry grow, there is another preventive step toward sustainability whose recognition has lagged behind the proof of its benefits: remanufacturing.

Remanufacturing is a process whereby retired or nonfunctional products or equipment are restored to like-new condition through after-market manufacturing operations. Remanufacturing has significant energy and environmental benefits. The average remanufactured product has five to seven pounds of old material for every pound of new material. Raw material saved through remanufacturing reduces energy required to extract and process materials – for every kilowatt-hour of energy spent in remanufacturing, about six kilowatt-hours are recovered.

The National Center for Remanufacturing and Resource Recovery (NCR³) at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) is the nation's leading center for applied research and development in remanufacturing technology. Because of the enormous energy-saving potential of remanufacturing, NYSERDA has been helping NCR³ improve surface cleaning, which is a critical and costly operation for remanufacturing, and is often a production bottleneck and the source of health and environmental concerns.



Baking soda abrasion is an efficient method for cleaning remanufactured parts. NCR³ is equipped with a laboratory containing a wide spectrum of analytical and cleaning equipment.



Photos courtesy Rochester Institute of Technology



Although cost-effective, energy-efficient, and environmentally friendly cleaning processes exist, few remanufacturing companies are aware of these technologies. NCR³ worked with more than 30 New York State remanufacturers to identify environmentally friendly cleaning technologies that, at reduced cost, clean parts equal to or better than existing processes. NCR³, with NYSERDA co-funding, has also developed a decision tool to generate customized recommendations to improve cleaning operations for a single part or a group of dissimilar parts. Benefits from implementing alternative cleaning technologies are substantial, producing payback periods as short as 12 weeks.

There are more than 3,000 remanufacturers in New York State. As a labor-intensive industry, remanufacturing is an important source of training and industrial skills for New York's large unskilled work force. These technologies make remanufacturers more competitive, supporting the New York State economy and job market. In addition, purchasing remanufactured products can save consumers 50-70% of the product cost compared to buying new.

In 2001, in recognition of the approximately \$1 million in co-funding supporting R&D projects, NCR³ honored NYSERDA as a Partner. In 2002, NCR³ won the Governor's Pollution Prevention Award for its NYSERDA-co-funded remanufacturing projects.

remnants of the original product. The process involves cleaning, inspecting, and repairing the parts to meet the original specifications. This process is often a production bottleneck and the source of health and environmental concerns.

SMART HOUSES?

Pilot Program Helps Homeowners Control Energy Costs

Albany, NY – Have you heard of a smart house? Properly equipped, a smart house could save the homeowner money on energy bills!

On July 8, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), ECONergy and Westchester County announced that 200 homes in the county will be given the power to become “smart” and allow homeowners to control their electric costs under a pilot program to test advanced electric meters for the home. When the meter, coupled with time-of-use electric rates, is deployed within the home, average energy costs can be reduced significantly.

“The goal of this program is to demonstrate to homeowners exactly when they are using energy, how much, and the cost of that energy,” said Peter R. Smith, acting president of NYSERDA. “We believe we will have 200 very happy participants when they see the benefits and savings they can obtain from smart energy use. They will become better energy consumers.”

Participating homes will be equipped with an advanced electric meter to measure electricity use and cost on a time-of-use basis. Time-of-use pricing means the price the homeowner pays for electricity is based on when it is used in the house, as opposed to paying the same price all day, every day. This is crucial as the price of electricity changes according to supply and demand factors. On hot afternoons, electricity is very expensive because there is a high demand. If the homeowner shifts their electricity use to times of the day when it is less expensive, they save money.

Under the pilot, the homeowner will know at what times of the day electricity is generally less expensive.

For example, if one uses a timer on a pool pump so it operates at night, or if one uses the electric clothes dryer in the morning, they are using these devices when the price of electricity is generally lower. Other automated devices such as electric water heater timers will save additional money. With this information, the homeowner could then take full advantage of time-of-use electricity pricing.



200 homes in Westchester County will be given the power to control their electric costs under a pilot program.



ECONergy will work with each participating homeowner to provide time-of-use electricity pricing for electric purchases during the pilot program and will provide technical assistance to the homeowners to best maximize the time-of-use pricing offers.

There will be a \$100 fee for participating in the pilot. Homeowners will receive a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® energy analysis, which is conducted by a participating BPI-certified Home Performance contractor. The assessment evaluates various systems within the home using the most advanced testing techniques, calling out improve-

ments that can be made to make the home more comfortable and energy efficient. If the homeowner implements any of the recommended improvements, the \$100 fee will be credited towards the cost of the work. The homeowner may also apply for low-interest financing to help pay for the improvements. In addition, each contractor will conduct a carbon monoxide test to ensure the home is safe.

Helping Commercial/Industrial Customers BE MORE EFFICIENT

The commercial, industrial and transportation sectors account for more than 50% of New York State's primary energy use. Approximately 88% of the energy used within New York State is imported from outside its borders. NYSERDA works with thousands of commercial, institutional and industrial customers each year to help them become more efficient and cost-effective. To that end, NYSERDA's Energy Efficiency Services unit provides technical and financial assistance to farms, small businesses, local governments, institutions and industrial customers.

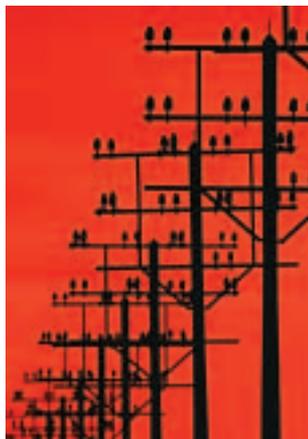


EES helps these customers evaluate and implement energy-efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Due to funding sources, most programs focus on electrical energy efficiency and re-

newable energy projects. However, some programs also assist customers in evaluating and installing fossil-fuel and alternate-fuel vehicle projects.

NYSERDA's commercial/industrial programs have grown exponentially over the past three years. The primary goals of the Energy Efficiency Services unit is to encourage the use of new energy-efficient products, promote the specification and use of higher-efficiency equipment, introduce best design and construction practices to projects, and support better reliability in New York's electric system.



Project examples exist in nearly every town and county in New York State. An example of a recent project involved helping SUNY-Albany renovate several of its downtown campus facilities. NYSERDA is supporting SUNY through an analysis of energy-efficient upgrades that will be eligible for incentives if installed. This project is a part of the City of Albany's effort to revitalize its Central Business Improvement District.

NYSERDA worked with the Town of Amherst, providing \$1.3 million to help install efficient motors, variable speed drives, controls and lighting, saving the town \$560,000 annually.

NYSERDA provided \$105,000 in incentives to the City of Utica to install LED traffic signals at 178 intersections. The signals will save the city more than \$40,000 in operations and maintenance costs annually.

NYSERDA strives to be flexible and works with eligible customers from all market sectors to achieve the common goals of operating more efficiently, saving money and improving the value of buildings. Additional information regarding programs for commercial/industrial customers can be found at: www.nyserdera.org, by contacting NYSERDA's toll-free hotline at 1-866-NYSERDA or e-mail at info@nyserdera.org



EPA & DOE Recognize NYSERDA

EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman (center) presents to Rick Gerardi, Program Director, NYSERDA's Residential Energy Affordability Programs (right), and Andrew Fisk, Sr. Project Manager, NYSERDA's Residential Energy Affordability Programs (left), the ENERGY STAR® 2003 Award. The award recognizes NYSERDA as a leader, making outstanding contributions to energy efficiency programs in New York State.

Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® HELPS NEW YORKERS BATTLE WINTER

Albany, NY – It's that time of year – the days are getting shorter and the kids head off to school. That can only mean one thing – fall and winter are on the way. Are you prepared to battle the cold weather? Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® can help. Home Performance with ENERGY STAR, developed under the **New York Energy \$martSM** program, can show you where money is leaking out of your house.

Homeowners now have access to a network of highly trained and certified Home Performance Contractors who use the latest technologies to test and treat homes for maximum performance, energy efficiency, and comfort. Home Performance Contractors are certified by the Building Performance Institute (BPI), a national resource for building science technology that sets the standards for assessing and improving the energy performance of homes.

Why should New Yorkers care about home performance? Energy efficiency improvements can enhance the quality, comfort, and safety of your home, not to mention save money on energy bills. Whether your home is old or new, it could be wasting up to 40% on energy costs due to inefficient heating and cooling systems, insufficient or improperly installed insulation, and air leaks through cracks and gaps in the attic, basement, plumbing fixtures and duct systems. Many homes have rooms that are too hot or cold, or have drafts, poor indoor air quality, and ice build-up on the roof that can cause structural damage.

These may be common signs that the house is not sealed, ventilated, insulated or heated properly.



A comprehensive Home Assessment will be conducted by a BPI-Certified Home Performance contractor. The contractor will evaluate the home and make recommendations on ways to save energy and improve comfort. If the homeowner decides to go forward with the recommendations, the fee for the comprehensive Home Assessment, which can be up to

\$250, will be credited towards the cost of the work performed by the BPI-Certified Home Performance contractor.

"BPI-Certified Home Performance Contractors take a unique, comprehensive approach to home energy usage that looks at the whole house, not just one room or single problem area – it's a great service and value for homeowners," says Peter R. Smith, Acting President of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). NYSERDA administers the **New York Energy \$martSM** Programs.

For more information, a free video and a list of participating BPI-Certified Home Performance

contractors, homeowners may call 1-877-NY-SMART or visit www.GetEnergySmart.org.

Insulation, HVAC and general contractors interested in becoming a BPI-Certified Home Performance Contractor should call (518) 207-4501.



CURRENTS

Published by:

NYSERDA
17 Columbia Circle
Albany, NY 12203-6399



Mark Your Calendars! Upcoming Events...

Lighting Expo and Ally Contractor Training for the Small Commercial Lighting Program

October 1, 2003

Grande Royale Hotel, 80 State St., Binghamton
4:30-8:00 p.m.

Contact ICF Consulting at (518) 452-0097
or e-mail scpl@icfconsulting.com

Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation and Protection in New York: Linking Science and Policy

October 7-8, 2003

Albany Marriott

Pre-registration required – call Mark Watson, NYSERDA,
toll-free 1-866-NYSERDA, ext. 3314 or e-mail mw1@nyserdera.org

Grand Opening, Center for Architecture

October 8, 2003

AIA New York

200 Lexington Ave., New York City

Craig Kneeland, Senior Project Manager, NYSERDA, Invited Speaker

High-Efficiency Motors and Variable-Speed Drive Workshops

October 14

Holiday Inn South, Rochester, NY

October 15

Best Western Sovereign, Albany, NY

October 21

Hilton Garden Inn, Elmira, NY

Barbara Evans, Applied Proactive Technologies (800) 388-9294
or e-mail Barbara@appliedproactive.com

Recruitment for Contractors & Builders in the Catskills & Southern Tier

November 12, 2003

SUNY Delhi

Contact Jeannie Darling at (607) 865-6531

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA's) **New York Energy \$martSM** Program is designed to lower electricity costs by encouraging energy efficiency as the State's electric utilities move to competition. The programs are available to all electric distribution customers (residential, commercial, institutional and industrial) of Central Hudson, Con Edison, NYSEG, Niagara Mohawk – A National Grid Company, Orange and Rockland, and Rochester Gas and Electric.

All **New York Energy \$martSM** Programs are funded by a System Benefits Charge (SBC) paid by electric distribution customers of participating utilities. NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation established by law in 1975, administers SBC funds and programs under an agreement with the Public Service Commission.