

A 2006 Eco-Efficiency Success Story



Maritime Paper Products Ltd.
Dartmouth, NS

In it for the long haul!

Maritime Paper Products Limited is a premier producer of corrugated packaging in Atlantic Canada with manufacturing facilities located in each of the four Atlantic provinces, including one employing 170 people in Dartmouth's Burnside Industrial Park.

Maritime Paper Products has always been unique. The doors to Maritime Paper first opened in the midst of the Great Depression in 1931, to serve the brewery market - certainly a risk at the time. This year the company is celebrating 75 years of continuous operation. Maritime Paper Products was founded on the basis of providing the best possible product at the best value on the market, and this ideal has allowed them to prosper. They are committed to serving their customers needs beyond their expectations. Maritime Paper now produces packaging products for a variety of markets, from food and beverage to fishing, agriculture and manufacturing.

The primary adhesive used in the manufacture of corrugated packaging is starch. It is the glue that holds the three pieces of paper together in the corrugating process. In May 2005, Maritime Paper Products completed the installation of an automated starch mixing and storage system. Prior to the start up of the new system, large batches of starch were produced and stored in tanks to be used in the manufacturing process when needed. As starch is temperature sensitive and the process is housed in a warm area of the plant, large quantities of cold water were used to cool the starch in the holding tanks and sent to drain. Since the automated system was installed, starch has been produced in small batches and delivered to the manufacturing process as needed. This has eliminated the need for large storage tanks of starch adhesive. The small amount of starch that is now stored for a short period of time is cooled with the system's chilling unit. Wastewater produced from the starch storage tank cooling in the amount of 8,000,000 liters annually has been eliminated. This results in a savings of \$11,000 in water use.

Maritime Paper's commitment to the environment extends throughout their operations. The corrugated packaging is 100% recyclable and biodegradable, all corrugated packaging clippings are collected and sent for recycling, and waste water is cleaned to remove dyes. Maritime Paper Products is also actively pursuing water reduction in the printing department. The chemical service partnership with their ink supplier also reduces the disposal of containers and ensures the reuse of some inks. The in-house environmental committee is active and continually working on refining the company's environmental procedures.

Technology, innovation, and environmental improvement are all part of the wave of the future at Maritime Paper Products.



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