

A 2005 Eco-Efficiency Success Story



Atlas Cold Storage
Dartmouth, NS

Putting the Freeze on Energy Consumption

Since 1998, Atlas Cold Storage has been an active member of the National Resources Canada Energy Innovators Initiative, a select group of companies that are making energy efficiency a priority. One facility, situated in Burnside Industrial Park on Pettipas Drive, is a local division of Canada's largest cold storage warehousing company. This Atlas Cold Storage facility employs 21 people and has maintained an exemplary reputation with their numerous corporate clients. It is a leader in the distribution of temperature controlled products with an explicit focus on economic and efficiency considerations.

Atlas's environmental contributions are founded on energy saving practices. Since 1999, the company has initiated the implementation of several energy retrofits. Modifications were made using modern insulation techniques and materials. These changes included adding direct load controls to its energy management system, installing plastic curtains to reduce the air flow from the refrigeration rooms, constructing a new roof with R80 insulation, and insulating bay doors for trucks to ensure minimal drafts. Atlas additionally employed high-efficiency motors, introduced innovative storage units, installed energy efficient lights and lamps, as well as motion sensors on the lights in the refrigeration warehouse to minimize run times. This facility has made a major contribution toward Atlas's national annual energy consumption savings of 52,070 GJ, accounting for approximately \$865,000.

In addition to these energy saving practices, Atlas Cold Storage has adopted a number of positive environmental practices such as the recycling of plastics, cardboard and waste paper, and the reuse of pallets. The company has also installed a computerized ammonia leak detector and maintains compressors on regular schedules and removes compressor oil by a waste oil hauler. These daily practices along with the permanent infrastructure modifications have led to a synergistic system that reduces overall energy consumption.

The Eco-Efficiency Centre would like to recognize Atlas Cold Storage for its efforts in energy efficiency and conservation in addition to its responsible environmental practices.

