



NEWS RELEASE

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources West Central Region

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SUBJECT: Phillips Plastics Corporation keeps getting greener

EAU CLAIRE – Phillips Plastics Corporation, a world-class injection molder of precision components, is quickly becoming a champion of the state’s Green Tier Program.

Named after the Wisconsin town where it began operations, Phillips Plastics employs more than 1,600 in 15 high technology plants – 14 in Wisconsin.

At a ceremony in Eau Claire today, Magnesium Injection Molding became the tenth Phillips Corporation plant to be accepted into the innovative Green Tier program. Under Green Tier, companies voluntarily commit to an environmental performance beyond regulatory compliance.

Secretary Matt Frank of the state Department of Natural Resources thanked Phillips Plastics for its forward-thinking actions to include the environment in its business and operation plans.

“Phillips Plastics is a genuine role model for other manufacturers interested in creating a strong Wisconsin industry while protecting our natural resources. The environment and economic development can be partners,” Frank said. “Innovation is the key, and I commend you for involving employees at every level in your environmental management program.”

Company employees raised the Green Tier flag on the grounds of Magnesium Injection Molding. Also, by tradition, the company planted an Autumn Blaze maple tree on the grounds, shading a plaque of congratulations to all those who helped achieve Green Tier status.

Scott Humrickhouse, director of the DNR’s west central region, presented company officials with the Green Tier plaque and applauded the company’s leadership in making environmental performance part of its business model.

The following counties are in the West Central Region: Adams, Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Crawford, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Marathon, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Portage, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon and Wood. The Public Affairs Manager for DNR West Central Region is Ed Culhane, 715-839-3715.

“For our neighbors here in the community we begin a process of sharing information about the pursuit of environmental excellence, and a path towards sustainability,” Humrickhouse said. “Our shared goal is to make this a better place through the economic and environmental improvements we achieve.”

Housed in a 55,000-square-foot building on Eau Claire’s south side, the 70 employees at Phillips Magnesium Injection Molding produce a wide variety of precision-engineered components for the medical, telecommunications, defense, automotive, lawn and garden, recreation and consumer appliance industries.

The injection process is unique, combining traditional metal die casting with plastic injection molding to produce thin but durable products with dimensional precision.

The Magnesium Injection Molding facility uses an environmental management system emphasizing continued progress in employee training, waste reduction, energy conservation and recycling.

"We are proud to be the tenth Phillips Plastics facility accepted into the Green Tier program," plant manager Wade Cullen said. "Phillips Plastics has always believed in being environmentally friendly and Green Tier is a seamless extension of this belief, taking our company to the next level of environmental excellence."

In 2008 the company reduced its consumption of electricity by 398,771 kWh. An employee initiative resulted in \$21,000 annual savings in the use of compressors. As with other Phillips Plastics’ operations, employees are strongly encouraged to be environmental stewards outside the work place.

For information on Green Tier and Phillips Plastics Corporation’s efforts, visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/caer/cea/environmental/participants/phillips/index.htm>.