

# *Press Release*



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Contacts:

MPUC Linda Viens, Program Manager, (207) 287-7327  
Linda Frechette, Public Relations Specialist, (207) 846-3714

## **Efficiency Maine Program Ally Helps Maine Businesses Save**

*Local Participants Save \$118,309 in Cash Incentives*

Augusta, Maine (March 28, 2006) – By now, most Maine businesses and residents have heard about Efficiency Maine, a statewide effort to promote the more efficient use of electricity to help reduce energy costs and improve Maine’s environment.

A critical component of the Efficiency Maine Business Program is a network of more than 300 designated ‘Program Allies’ throughout the state. Program Allies are wholesalers, manufacturers, retailers and contractors that work with Efficiency Maine to promote and install energy efficient electric equipment that meet program guidelines. Sebago Energy Conservation of Westbrook was one of the first companies to sign on as a Program Ally, and has been one of the most active.

Sebago has been in business for 15 years, offering customers throughout New England a full service operation. Since the inception of Efficiency Maine in 2003, Sebago has completed over 30 projects in conjunction with the program, serving clients such as Saco Schools, Portland Water District, Downeast Energy, the Town of Raymond and Mount Merici School in Waterville.

The energy company has helped these Maine businesses and organizations garner \$118,309 in cash incentives from Efficiency Maine, in addition to saving energy.

The Sebago staff starts each project with an energy audit and assists clients in designing and installing energy efficient lighting. Working with Efficiency Maine allows Sebago to know exactly what energy efficient equipment qualifies for cash incentives under the Program and pass this information onto its clients.

Sebago Energy has worked with many businesses to obtain cash incentives from Efficiency Maine for lighting improvements they made including \$13,597 for Portland Water District and \$5,150 for Downeast

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Energy. Maine schools and municipalities have also benefited from the Program: Saco Schools completed five lighting projects and received \$2,190 in cash incentives, Mt. Merici School in Waterville received \$1,320 and the Town of Raymond received \$750 for their lighting upgrades.

“We have always made it our business to know about any programs offering incentives for electric efficiency and to understand how our customers can benefit from them,” commented President Joe Disanza. “Our lighting design will always save customers in the long run, but the upfront investment can be a problem for schools and businesses. The cash incentives offered by Efficiency Maine are key to getting projects approved. It often makes the difference in our customers’ ability to invest in energy efficient lighting.”

Disanza is proud of the service his company offers and likes that he can save his customers money. A former EPA technician, he says another positive outcome of the business is the fact that Sebago Energy projects are good for the environment.

Efficiency Maine is funded by electricity consumers and administered by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. More information about the program and types of electricity-saving devices are available online at [www.energymaine.com](http://www.energymaine.com) or by calling toll-free, 1-866-376-2463.