

Press Release



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Associated Grocers of Maine Receives Philip C. Hastings Award

AG Helped Retailers Save \$80,000 By Promoting Energy Efficient Equipment Installations

Augusta, MAINE (June 1, 2005) – Governor Baldacci presented the first annual Philip C. Hastings award to the Associated Grocers of Maine. In a ceremony held Thursday, May 12th in the Governor’s Cabinet Room, CEO Patrick Flannery accepted the award on behalf of Associated Grocers of Maine, and specifically the 19 retailers that have participated in the Efficiency Maine Program.

Associated Grocers of Maine (AG of ME) received the award due to its support of the Efficiency Maine Program. AG of Maine has promoted the Business Program to its membership through newsletter articles and onsite training. As a result, 19 of its members have installed energy efficient electric equipment, receiving a combined total of \$80,000 in cash incentives and saving 758,735 kilowatt hours. Additionally, more than 45 members have requested additional information about the Business Program.

“Associated Grocers of Maine embodies the enthusiasm of our business leaders and residents who incorporate energy efficiency into everyday lives,” remarked governor Baldacci. “I applaud the efforts of Efficiency Maine and all the participants, particularly the Associated Grocers of Maine and the 19 participating retailers.”

Practicing what it preaches, AG of ME installed energy efficient equipment according to the Business Program’s guidelines at its Gardiner warehouse. The facility upgraded lighting and control units, replaced rooftop heat pumps and installed load-shifting controls, demonstrating the economic value of energy efficiency. Associated Grocers is Maine’s only full service independent retail food distributor and has been serving its members since 1953.

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The Efficiency Maine Program established this award in remembrance of the Program's Founding Director, Philip C. Hastings. The award recognizes a group, or individual that has advanced the mission and principles of Efficiency Maine and has provided superior service or support to Maine's energy efficiency community.

Efficiency Maine Program is a statewide effort to promote the wise use of electricity, help lower overall electricity costs for Maine ratepayers, and improve Maine's environment. Efficiency Maine is funded by electricity consumers and administered by the Maine Public Utilities Commission. Information is available on the Web at efficiencymaine.com, or by toll-free phone at 1-866-376-2463.