



Photo submitted
Efficient bulbs have been installed in the Kaytec warehouse above, in Richford. The project, which took place over the last seven months, will save the company about \$32,000 annually.

Kaytec to save thousands in annual lighting expenses

Richford plant collaborates with Efficiency Vermont

By MICHELLE MONROE
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RICHFORD — New energy efficient lighting at the Kaytec facility in Richford is expected to pay for itself within a year and save the company roughly \$32,000 annually in energy costs, according to plant manager Shayne Whittemore.

The project was done in the siding manufacturers' plant in conjunction with Efficiency Vermont and took about seven months to complete.

Not only did the company save money, but also the new lamps offer a better quality of light, according to Whittemore. "It's dramatically different," he said.

Following an energy audit, Kaytec decided to replace more than 250 high-bay and T12 fluorescent lights with energy-efficient high-performance T8 (HPT8) lamps.

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Compared to older T12 lighting, HPT8 light fixtures save up to 50 percent in energy, last up to twice as long, and provide better quality light.

Speaking of the company's old halide fixtures, Whittemore said, "They were constantly sucking money."

Motion detectors in the warehouse area turn the lights off when the area is not in use. Because the old lights took 10 to 15 minutes to warm up, they were often left on when no one was in the warehouse area, Whittemore explained. Now the lights are only there when needed.

Some of Kaytec's customers are now considering installing motion detectors in their own warehouses, said Whittemore.

Efficiency Vermont provided technical expertise and a financial incentive.

According to Matt Dooley, of Efficiency Vermont, the financial incentives vary depending on the size and complexity of the project with the goal of making the project financially viable for the company.

"We're trying to set an incentive that moves the project forward," Dooley said.

Whittemore said Kaytec also saw an immediate return when it upgraded the lighting at its Chittenden County offices.