



FULFLEX®

ELASTOMERICS WORLDWIDE

2011 Northeast Energy Efficiency Business Leadership Recognition

Honorable Mention

Since 1932, Fulflex has been the world's leading manufacturer of natural and synthetic rubber and elastic tapes, threads, sheets and rings for personal care products. Fulflex is a key subsidiary of [The Moore Company](#), of Rhode Island, a private, family-owned American company with businesses in textiles, elastics, and flexographic printing materials, battery components and molded products for the marine industry.

Working with Efficiency Vermont, Fulflex focused on three factory system efficiency upgrades at their 100,000 square foot Brattleboro plant. The project was developed over 18 months and took six months to implement. This approach bundled several energy efficiency projects into one, secured an energy analysis and valuable project incentives, and implemented all cost-effective project components to maximize energy-savings benefits. Fulflex has reduced their electric use in these applications by nearly 20 percent by investing in this project. The results of their efforts are equivalent to removing over 200 houses from the grid. With more efficient operations, Fulflex can be a more competitive business.

Efficiency investments included:

1. **Lighting & Controls-** From warehouse to shipping, inclusive of some factory offices, approximately 550 metal halide and T12 fluorescent fixtures were replaced or retrofitted to high-performance T8 fixtures. The company also installed approximately 150 motion and daylight controls and exit signs were upgraded to LED bulbs.
2. **Compressed Air-** The company replaced old air compressors with energy efficient models and system leaks were repaired.
3. **Dust Collection Systems-** Existing systems were consolidated, motors were upgraded, and VFDs and Ecogate dust collection control systems were installed.

A unique aspect of this project was savings confirmation. During the course of the project, production at Fulflex fluctuated and Brattleboro endured its hottest summer in years. By reviewing electric bill data, the company discovered that heavier than normal production in early 2010 was followed quickly by additional use of space and process cooling equipment that summer – both of which had an overshadowing effect on energy use. While dollar savings were less than expected, the company's upgrades and reviews revealed that avoided costs were even more valuable.

Senior level executives at both Fulflex and its parent company the Moore Company are leading corporate support for efficiency investments, highlighting energy savings and the company's desire to be a strong corporate citizen.