

NAPA Distribution Center



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Latham, New York – Albany County

Background

Due to the old age and poor condition of its heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) units, the National Automotive Parts Association (NAPA) Distribution Center in Latham, New York, decided to upgrade the equipment to more energy-efficient units. In its search for qualified contractors, NAPA selected The Walters Co. Air Conditioning because of the company's thorough proposal and devoted approach to the project.

Recommendations and Results

A participant in the **New York Energy \$martSM** Unitary HVAC Program, The Walters Co., Albany, NY, made the following improvements to the NAPA Distribution Center:

- Replaced 10 of 13 rooftop HVAC units with high-efficiency models (minimum 11.0 EER)
- Upgraded NAPA's Energy Management System
- Switched the building's heating system from electric to natural gas

To further improve NAPA's energy efficiency, The Walters Co. installed a direct digital control system. This allows the new HVAC units to operate more effectively and improves space comfort by monitoring and adjusting the temperature, humidity, and pressure inside the building. When the building is unoccupied, the system goes into automatic night setback mode. As a result of the energy-efficient improvements, NAPA is eligible to receive more than \$16,000 in incentives from the **New York Energy \$martSM** Smart Equipment Choices Program. This will reduce the cost of the HVAC system and equipment, further reducing the payback period. Based on the value-added services offered by The Walters Co., NAPA has signed on with the company for future maintenance, ensuring the HVAC system always operates at peak efficiency.

The resulting cost analysis is as follows:

- the cost of upgrading the system to high-efficiency HVAC units and advanced controls was approximately \$42,000
- estimated annual energy savings of approximately \$17,160
- approximate annual energy saved is 184,553 kWh
- the project paid for itself in 2.5 years

"We decided to sell up the job, rather than try to be the low bidder – a different approach for us – one that we learned through the Unitary HVAC Program."

– William Clough,
The Walters Co.

Project Date: May–Sept. 2002
Type of Space: Mixed



New York Energy \$martSM

All **New York Energy \$martSM** programs are funded by a System Benefits Charge (SBC) paid by electric distribution customers of Central Hudson, Con Edison, NYSEG, Niagara Mohawk, Orange and Rockland, and Rochester Gas and Electric. NYSERDA, a public benefit corporation established by law in 1975, administers SBC funds and programs under an agreement with the Public Service Commission.

New York Energy \$martSM programs are designed to lower electricity costs by encouraging energy efficiency as the State's electric utilities move to competition. The programs are available to electric distribution customers (residential, commercial, institutional, and industrial) who pay into the SBC.



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