



Energy Efficiency Case Study

Brought to you by Eversource

Polar Beverages Worcester, MA

Background

Polar Beverages is the largest family-owned and operated independent bottling company in the United States. For more than 135 years, this fifth-generation family-owned company has grown and now offers more than 20 different varietals to a national customer base.

The Challenge

At its flagship facility in Worcester, Mass., the production line was running at full capacity. Ralph Crowley, Jr. and his brother Chris Crowley set out to increase efficiency and find new ways to increase capacity, but they couldn't do it alone.

The Solution

Polar Beverages tapped Eversource to provide energy expertise, technical support, and financial incentives to help complete several natural gas energy-efficiency projects that have increased the company's production efficiency, capacity, and sustainability, including:

- Replacing six gas-fired water heaters with smaller high-efficiency units, which reduce gas use by a third.
- Adding controls to a boiler to optimize energy use during the water pasteurization process.

The equipment upgrades will save Polar Beverages \$180,000 annually. As the business grows and Ralph and Chris prepare to turn the reigns over to the next generation, Eversource is helping the Crowley family weigh energy costs, production impacts, and energy savings when making future capital investments.

Today this team is continuing to find new ways to use energy efficiency as a bottom-line advantage.

"As we continue to increase production and add new product lines and flavors here in Worcester, Eversource has been a strong partner and supporter of our mission to make strategic investments and maintain our efficiency," said **Polar Beverages President and CEO Ralph Crowley Jr.** "There are much larger factories that make half of what we do. We sweat every asset and the technical support we receive from Eversource is fundamentally important."

Results Summary

Annual energy savings of around **180,000 therms**

\$180,000 in energy cost savings

Increased production capacity and efficiency

1 ton of avoided CO2 emissions a year, equivalent to the carbon sequestered by an acre of trees.

About Mass Save:

Together, we make good happen for Massachusetts: Berkshire Gas, Cape Light Compact, Eversource, Liberty Utilities, National Grid and Unitil. As one, we form Mass Save®, with the common goal of helping residents and businesses across Massachusetts save money and energy, leading our state to a clean and energy efficient future.

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