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## NEWS

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For Immediate Release  
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### **Pilot Rock sawmill cuts energy waste for competitive edge** *Changes in behavior and practices reap energy cost savings*

PILOT ROCK, Ore. — June 5, 2013 — Boise Cascade's Kinzua Lumber sawmill located in Pilot Rock, Ore., has spent more than a year following a dedicated plan to identify and cut energy waste in its operations.

As a result of changes in behavior, adoption of new practices and improvements in process, the mill is saving 1,803,744 kilowatt hours of electricity each year, which is equivalent to the energy needed to power 160 average Oregon homes for one year. These energy-saving strategies earned Boise Cascade \$36,075 in cash incentives from Energy Trust of Oregon.

Beginning in 2012, Boise Cascade took advantage of Energy Trust's Strategic Energy Management initiative, which provides technical support and incentives to help industrial facilities develop strategies for long-lasting energy savings and reduced energy costs. Boise Cascade's mill operations consume significant amounts of electricity, fueling the mill management's desire to trim operating costs without sacrificing productivity or quality.

"Changing our internal practices was a grassroots transformation," said Mike Zojonc, mill manager, Boise Cascade. "An energy team, comprised of hourly employees, spearheaded this effort and engaged all of our people in minimizing energy use. Some were skeptical when we first started, but when they could see how our work was paying off with dramatic results, we knew our culture was changing from the inside."

The energy team's initial goal was to save 5 percent off their baseline energy use. By the end of the March 2013, the company was saving 14 percent. The team meets monthly to track energy performance, identify energy-saving opportunities and build employee participation in the effort. For the remainder of the year, the team identified an additional savings goal of 3.75 percent. The mill's head electrician, Kirby Pete, serves as Energy Champion and chairs the work.

Boise Cascade worked with industrial energy experts, provided at no cost by Energy Trust. This work included assessing their current energy management practices, building and implementing an Energy Action Plan and developing ways to measure results. Major energy-saving accomplishments included minimizing idle motor operation, particularly

during clean-up shifts in the planer; improving winterization to decrease heating requirements; and improving operational procedures including motor start-up and shut-down procedures. An energy map of the facility helps employees understand energy usage in different parts of the mill and helps guide decisions about possible improvements. In addition to reducing its energy use, Boise Cascade is saving more than \$99,000 in annual energy costs.

As part of its participation with Energy Trust, Boise Cascade received a two-year subscription to a web-based program that provides real-time energy usage data to track and measure energy performance.

“We’re in a very competitive industry,” continued Zojonc. “Our employees understand that by saving energy, we’re saving revenue that we can direct back in our business and help sustain the longevity of this location. From a business perspective, a commitment to saving energy is the right thing to do. The Energy Trust incentives make this project a good investment and are symbolic of the efforts that our guys have put into making us more competitive.”

Energy Trust of Oregon is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to helping utility customers benefit from saving energy and tapping renewable resources. Our services, cash incentives and energy solutions have helped participating customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas save more than \$1.3 billion on energy bills. Our work helps keep energy costs as low as possible, creates jobs and builds a sustainable energy future. Learn more at [www.energytrust.org](http://www.energytrust.org) or call 1-866-368-7878.

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