

TRI-STATE ELECTRIC MOTORS AND MOHAWK PAPER MILLS, INC.

Mohawk Paper Mills, Inc., located near Albany, NY, is a manufacturer of quality paper, specializing in a range of highly focused text and cover grade papers that are specially formatted for short-run digital color printing. Unlike many older paper mills in the Northeast that have closed in recent years, Mohawk Paper has increased its profits by investing in energy-efficient technologies that reduce electricity costs and allow it to remain competitive.

Mohawk Paper demonstrated its commitment to energy efficiency by analyzing and replacing its electric motors with premium-efficiency motors. Since electric motors account for nearly 70 percent of electricity costs for industrial facilities, this upgrade provides considerable savings.

Mohawk Paper turned to one of its industrial supply partners, Tri-State Electric Motors of Troy, NY, for assistance. Using tools and support provided by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's (NYSERDA's) Premium-Efficiency Motors Program, Tri-State Electric Motors was able to demonstrate how upgrading several of the production lines with premium-efficiency motors could dramatically reduce operating costs. The Premium-Efficiency Motors Program provides vendors like Tri-State Electric Motors with customized marketing materials, educational training and motor sales incentives.

Additionally, by using NYSERDA's Smart Equipment Choices Program, Mohawk Paper was able to take advantage of incentives available for the purchase of these premium-efficiency motors, making the payback for these upgrades less than two years. The higher initial cost of a premium-efficiency motor becomes insignificant when compared to the actual amount of electricity that will be consumed over the 15-year life of the motor.

Tri-State Electric Motors now stocks premium-efficiency motors because of the cost-effective benefits that are provided to the customer. When a standard motor fails, customers like Mohawk Paper can have a premium-efficiency model promptly installed.



The installation of Premium-Efficiency Motors has reduced Mohawk Paper's electric-energy consumption by 3.5 percent.



“With the upgrades we’ve made from 2001 to the present, and with the help of NYSERDA funding and our vendor’s assistance, we’ve reduced Mohawk’s electric-energy consumption by 3.5 percent, on a per ton basis .”

George W. Milner,
Mohawk Paper Mills, Inc.