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Jackson Labs honored as 'Business Leader for Energy Efficiency'

To be feted as part of Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit

May 8, 2006, LEXINGTON, Mass. – The Jackson Laboratory of Bar Harbor, Maine is among eight organizations selected for recognition as “Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency” as part of a conference and awards program to mark the 10th anniversary of Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP).

The Business Leaders Recognition program will be presented as part of the *2006 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit*, being held on May 17 in Boston. Jackson Laboratory, which was nominated for the honor by the Maine Public Utility Commission's Efficiency Maine program, was chosen based upon its approach to energy efficiency as evidenced by a series of factors, including documented energy savings; cost effective energy efficiency investments; comprehensiveness; commitment from management to continued energy performance; proven operations and practices; and overall organizational leadership.

Beginning in 2003, Jackson Laboratory, a non-profit specializing in biomedical research, began a program of measuring and benchmarking its energy use, including the installation of a metering and software system that allows it to control energy use from office computers. Two of the Laboratory staff have completed Certified Energy Manager training, and three have completed Building Operator Certification courses sponsored by Efficiency Maine. The Laboratory has installed adjustable speed drives and advanced burner controls on its boiler plant, and is in a continuing process of upgrading its lighting as the operation allows. All savings are monitored and recorded through the benchmarking software, and energy efficiency is a consideration in the development of the organization's business plan.

Those measures have resulted in Jackson Laboratory saving 1,145,508 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity annually, as well as 36,953 gallons of fuel oil.

“It’s an honor and a privilege to pay special recognition to Jackson Laboratory, as well as to the PUC’s Efficiency Maine program, for supporting Jackson in its commitments to energy savings,” noted Ashok Gupta of the Natural Resources Defense Council, president of NEEP and, along with Penni McLean-Conner of NSTAR, co-chair of the 2006 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit. “Jackson Laboratory is truly a model of ‘best practices’ that sets a fine example of how energy efficiency can achieve affordability, reliability and sustainability.”

Other honorees include Brown University (Providence, R.I.); The Albanese Organization (Garden City, N.Y.); the City of Claremont, N.H.; New Atlantic Development Corp.(Boston, Mass.); New York Presbyterian Hospital (New York, N.Y.); Raytheon Co. (Waltham, Mass.) and Whitman-Hanson (Mass.) Regional High School.

“It has been a pleasure to work with the Jackson Laboratory on improving the efficiency of their facilities,” said Maine Public Utilities Commissioner Stephen Diamond. “They view the purchase of efficient equipment and the monitoring of their energy use for what it is – an investment rather than an expense. The Jackson Laboratory is taking the right steps with these investments. They have demonstrated that businesses that invest in energy efficiency can improve their bottom line, hedge against rising energy costs, and improve the environment by reducing smokestack emissions at the power plant.”

As 2006 marks its 10th anniversary, this year NEEP will combine its annual conference with exhibits and a gala evening awards and recognition program when it hosts the **Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit on Wednesday, May 17**, at the **Hyatt Harborside Hotel in Boston**. This year’s summit theme is **“Best Practices for Reliability, Affordability, and Sustainability.”** For information see <http://www.neep.org/conference/index.html>.

About NEEP

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP) is a regional nonprofit organization founded in 1996 whose mission is to promote energy efficiency in homes, buildings and industry in the Northeast U.S. through regionally coordinated programs and policies that increase the use of energy efficient products, services and practices, and that help achieve a cleaner environment and a more reliable and affordable energy system. For more information, visit www.neep.org.