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## **News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Miniature Precision Components expands product line with help from local utility**

Madison, Wis. – Aug. 28, 2003 – When a business is looking to expand its product line, striking up a partnership with the local utility might not be the first thing that comes to mind. However, in the case of Miniature Precision Components (MPC), that's exactly what executives at the Walworth-based company did. By participating in Alliant Energy-Wisconsin Power and Light Company's (WP&L) Shared Savings program, MPC was able to purchase a state-of-the-art, energy efficient machine that provided the technology it needed to add to its product line.

A supplier of molded plastic parts to the automotive industry, MPC is currently one of two companies in the United States to own a SB-15 Suction Blow Molding machine. The machine allows MPC to manufacture intricate parts in one cycle that previously needed to be assembled from separate pieces using five different machines in the process.

"Our efforts to expand and grow this area of our business certainly got a boost because of WP&L's Shared Savings program," said Katie Padjen, MPC controller. "The SB-15 purchase, in addition to other equipment purchases that qualified for participation in the Shared Savings program, has allowed MPC to realize energy savings and strengthen its competitive edge as an automotive supplier."

With the SB-15, MPC now manufactures turbo charger inlets used in Ford pickup trucks faster and more efficiently. The process uses one-tenth of the plastic and each year saves more than 5.6 million kilowatt-hours of electricity from being generated. Annual energy savings amount to nearly \$300,000.

According to Padjen, it would have been difficult to come up with the \$1.8 million needed to purchase the SB-15 and two other machines without assistance from WP&L's Shared Savings program, which provided both the energy expertise and capital needed to make the energy-saving improvement. MPC is repaying WP&L from its monthly energy savings over a five-year term and will receive all the savings when payments are complete.

(more)

**Miniature Precision Components expands product line with help from local utility**

Aug. 28, 2003

Page 2

In addition to the upfront capital, Padjen credits the strong relationship with Alliant Energy Key Account Manager Chris Seitz in making the Shared Savings projects a reality. "Chris has worked closely with several areas of the company, including manufacturing, maintenance and finance, to gain a thorough understanding of our business," says Padjen. "His high level of energy expertise, combined with his knowledge of our business, helped him prepare technically-sound project proposals that qualified for Shared Savings. He also provides ongoing assistance and continues to bring cost-savings ideas to MPC."

The emissions avoided from the energy savings provide an additional benefit. Wisconsin's environment is better protected because more than 11 million pounds of carbon dioxide, 56,000 pounds of sulfur dioxide and 28,000 pounds of nitrogen oxide will not be emitted into the air as a result of this project.

Shared Savings has helped thousands of Alliant Energy customers with the implementation of energy efficient projects. Participating customers experience an average 8 percent reduction in energy costs.

Since 1997, more than 600 million annual kilowatt-hours of electricity were saved as a result of Shared Savings – equivalent to the amount of electricity generated from a 200-megawatt power plant. That's enough energy to power nearly 70,000 homes for a full year.

*Alliant Energy is an energy-services provider that serves more than three million customers worldwide. Providing its regulated customers in the Midwest with electricity and natural gas service remains the company's primary focus. Other key business platforms include the international energy market and non-regulated domestic generation. Alliant Energy, headquartered in Madison, Wis., is a Fortune 1000 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol LNT. For more information, visit the company's web site at [www.alliantenergy.com](http://www.alliantenergy.com).*

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**EDITOR'S NOTE: SENATOR NEAL KEDZIE IS PLANNING A SITE VISIT TO MINIATURE PRECISION COMPONENTS (MPC) ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SHARED SAVINGS PROGRAM AND TO DISCUSS OTHER ISSUES OF CONCERN TO MPC. YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND. PLEASE CALL JANICE MATHIS AT ALLIANT ENERGY, 608-458-3955, FOR DETAILS.**