

WVMEP'S ENERGY ASSESSMENT AT MISTER BEE HAS BIG
IMPACT

ABOUT MISTER BEE POTATO CHIPS. Mister Bee Potato Chip was founded in 1951 in Parkersburg, West Virginia. In November 1962, the company was moved to a new location also in Parkersburg, West Virginia, where the chips are still made today. Mister Bee now operates as West Virginia Potato Chip Company, LLC / DBA: Mister Bee Potato Chip and is the only producer of potato chips in West Virginia.

THE CHALLENGE. Mister Bee Potato Chip recognized that dated, facilities, equipment, and procedures were having a large impact on their energy expenses. They needed an accurate assessment of their current energy usage and projections of savings for the proposed/discovered upgrade needs.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. The WVU Industrial Extension/WVMEP, part of the MEP National Network™, completed an energy assessment at Mister Bee Potato Chip and provided a comprehensive report detailing recommendations for the energy assessment. The energy assessment covered all energy consumers in the plant and was tailored to fit the needs of the operation.

"WVUMEP provided pollution prevention (P2), energy assessments, and efficiencies for manufacturing for the Mister Bee Potato Chip facility. Utilizing all of the energy, waste, and lean recommendations we were able to minimize organic waste, with energy efficiencies, lean improvements, and cost-effective manufacturing upgrades. Our adherence to the WVUMEP services allowed us to successfully apply for WV USDA REAP funding to allow for efficiency upgrades and efficient new production equipment and processes. "

-MaryAnne Ketelsen, Owner & President

RESULTS



\$5,000,000 in new investment in equipment



\$3,000,000 in investment in new products



\$70,000 in investment in workforce and skills

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