

Fieldcrest Is Leader In SavEnergy Drive

Fieldcrest Mills, Inc., has been awarded a U.S. Department of Commerce SavEnergy Citation for its leadership in nation-wide energy conservation.

The company was notified in a letter from Frederick B. Dent, Secretary of Commerce, to William C. Battle, president of Fieldcrest Mills, Inc.

In part, the letter stated, "We commend your company's foresight in beginning energy saving actions in early 1973 . . . The nation's ultimate success in this endeavor will depend upon the actions taken, such as yours, by all companies and industries. This problem has both short and long range ramifications necessitating a continual effort into the future.

"We are particularly interested in the specific actions that your company has taken and hope that other companies might benefit from your experiences . . ."

The 15 specific actions taken by the company to which Mr. Dent referred are: (1) reduction of leaks, (2) improvement of insulations and weatherstrippings, (3) reduction in and partial elimination of lighting including cutting off lights in idle or unoccupied areas, (4) reducing temperatures 6 to 8 degrees in heated areas, and (5) reducing exhausts.

Also, (6) reducing refrigeration loads when production is not adversely affected by using

outside air for cooling where possible, (7) reducing and cutting off heat in unoccupied warehouses except as required to prevent freezing, (8) reducing idling time of equipment, (9) recycling all condensate and cooling water possible, (10) burning waste lubricants by mixing with oil fuels instead of discarding, (11) scheduling operations so as to reduce energy demand peaks, (12) scheduling transportation and combining trips between plants, (13) promoting carpools, walking and cycling to employees where feasible, (14) installation of further heat reclaiming equipment, and (15) making the maximum use of coal instead of fuels in shorter supply.

At least partly as a result of these actions taken at all locations, Fieldcrest's energy consumption per man-hour of operation was 27.9 percent less in December, 1973, than in December, 1972. This is an equivalent saving of 122,801 million BTU in use of coal, oil, gas and electricity over the same month of the prior year, according to J. G. Farrell, Fieldcrest energy conservation coordinator.

Monthly reports and check lists are being made at each location to determine the amount of energy saved. The figures for the month of January are still being compiled, Mr. Farrell said.

Sets 12-Year Attendance Record



Johnnie Barber, with 12 years of perfect attendance on the job, is presented Savings Bond by W. F. Crumley, plant manager of Blanket Greige Mill. See story and picture of Blanket attendance champions on page eight.



Save On Gas And Have Fun, Too!

These two Blanket Mill employees are conserving gas and seem to be enjoying every minute of it. They ride bicycles to and from work whenever the weather permits. At left is Faye Chaney, a smash hand in the Weave Room. Frank Biegar is a card and harness man, also in the Weave Room.

Fieldcrest Mills Has Record Sales In '73

Fieldcrest Mills, Inc., has reported record sales and near-record earnings for 1973. Sales reached a level of \$290,813,000, up 19 percent from \$244,081,000 in 1972. Excluding sales of Swift Spinning Mills, acquired in March, 1973, sales for 1973 increased 12 percent over the preceding year.

Fieldcrest's after-tax earnings for 1973 were \$9,354,000, increasing 25 percent from \$7,504,000 in 1972. Earnings per share were \$2.62 for 1973 compared with \$2.10 in 1972.

Sales for the fourth quarter of 1973 were \$88,686,000 compared to \$73,099,000 in 1972. Net earnings for the quarter were \$4,360,000 (\$1.22 per share), up from \$2,418,000 (\$.68 per share) in the prior year.

William C. Battle, president and chief executive officer, observed that even though the sales and earnings increases were most gratifying, the profit margins were still below a satisfactory level and particular emphasis would be placed on this aspect of business in 1974.

In discussing the performance for the year, he attributed the sales and earnings increases to several factors. Among these were a marked reduction in the production of off-quality merchandise; effective control of costs and expenses accruing from a vigorous profit improvement program throughout the company; stronger product lines; and certain price increases allowed by the Cost of Living Council in the third and fourth quarters which helped reduce the adverse effect of substantially higher raw material costs.

In addition, Swift Spinning made an important contribution to earnings for both the fourth quarter and the entire year.

Battle further stated that the current unfilled order position continues to be significantly ahead of last year. "Sales and mill activity in the early part of 1974 continue to be strong," he said, "and we are enthusiastic about prospects for the year."

Gasoline Thefts Increase In Company Parking Lots

Reports of gasoline being stolen from employee vehicles parked in unfenced parking lots, as well as some fenced lots, have been increasing, according to R. R. Beaver, director of security.

In view of the continuing shortage and rising price of gasoline, the situation is expected to worsen, Mr. Beaver said.

Although security guards have been instructed to observe parking areas more frequently,

Mr. Beaver is urging each employee to report to guards and-or supervisors the presence of unknown or suspicious persons in parking areas. He also suggests that employees purchase locking gas tank caps or spring-type devices which fit inside the gas tank as prevention against theft.

"Swift action will be taken to prosecute anyone found stealing gas or anything else from cars parked on Company property," Mr. Beaver said.

SAVE ENERGY!

On The Job

And At Home