



PO Box 1626 - Manitowoc, WI 544221-1626  
Phone (920) 682-6105 - Fax (920) 682-7700  
[www.acebuildingsservice.com](http://www.acebuildingsservice.com)

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**Contact:** Stan Johnson, (920) 682-6105

### **Mechanical Research & Design, Inc. receives Focus on Energy awards for renewable energy system**

Wisconsin Focus on Energy has awarded Mechanical Research & Design in Newton up to \$27,450 for the installation of an 18.4 kw solar electric (PV, or photovoltaic) system. The Focus on Energy money, coupled with matching funds from WPS and a 30% federal tax credit, will translate into an excellent return on investment for the company.

Located at 7511 Center Road in Newton, Mechanical Research is currently in the midst of a major renovation project, with A.C.E. Building Service serving as design/build contractor. A.C.E. has been instrumental in working with Mechanical Research and EcoManity, LLC, to bring the PV project to life.

The centerpiece of the energy upgrade is installation of a 3,000-square-foot photovoltaic array on the south face of the building, which will be installed by December 1. Once completed, it is expected to produce about 21,960 kwh per year, providing approximately 20% of the annual electrical power for the facility and helping protect Mechanical Research from rising utility costs. Other energy enhancements in the building project are installation of high efficiency lighting fixtures, high efficiency on-demand water heater, high efficiency boiler and insulation upgrades.

The complete building project includes a 3,300-square-foot addition to an existing 32,000-square-foot building that will serve as Mechanical Research's new facility. The building renovation also features a conference room, design center and employee wellness center.

Mechanical Research is an international company that designs and manufactures seals and sealing devices for pipelines and process equipment. One of their current large projects is designing and building an 11 ton seal tight door to be placed 700 feet below ground that will partition off a portion of the New York City's water supply system so that repair work can be done, and an upcoming project will take them to Spain.

Founded in 1950, A.C.E. Building Service is located in Manitowoc and provides commercial and industrial construction services – including new buildings, expansions,

renovations, metal re-roof, facilities maintenance, design/build, and build/lease – to Manitowoc and Sheboygan Counties.

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