

# Heller Machine Tools

# First Michigan manufacturer to use PACE

In June 2016, Heller Machine Tools became the first manufacturing company in Michigan to use PACE financing to pay for a deep energy retrofit. Heller worked with Levin Energy Partners, ABM, and Petros PACE Finance, a national PACE lender, to replace outdated and inefficient equipment and make the company even more competitive and profitable. The facility upgrade was the largest PACE-financed project in Michigan to date, helping the international manufacturing company pay for \$978,607 of energy saving improvements.

The City of Troy established a PACE program by joining Lean & Green Michigan with a unanimous City Council vote in February 2016. Heller's project, which was completed in early 2017, involves networked building controls, comprehensive lighting replacement, server room cooling, partial roof replacement, HVAC, and compressed air upgrades. The work was completed by ABM, an international provider of facility services for over 100 years. These improvements will save the company \$1.7 million over 15 years, with a positive cash flow of \$170,454 net of all closing costs and payments. With PACE, Heller is not only saving money and eliminating energy waste, but also is making a positive and lasting impact on the environment.

June 2016



**PACE District:** City of Troy

**Property Owner:** Heller Machine Tools

**PACE Contractor:** ABM

**PACE lender:** Petros PACE Finance **Amount Financed:** \$978,607

Net Savings: \$170,454

Total Savings: \$1.7 Million

#### **Energy Conservation Measures:**

HVAC

• Networked building controls

• Compressed air upgrades

Partial roof replacement and lighting replacement

• Server room cooling

**Project Term:** 15 years

**Impact:** Each year, the Heller PACE project will replace 460,029 kWh of electricity and 658 MMBTU of natural gas.











### Lean & Green Michigan

Lean & Green Michigan<sup>TM</sup> helps commercial, industrial and multifamily property owners take advantage of PACE to finance energy projects, eliminate waste and save money through longterm financing solutions that make energy projects profitable. Lean & Green Michigan<sup>TM</sup> is a public-private partnership that works with local governments, contractors, property owners, and lenders to invigorate Michigan's PACE statute with a marketbased approach to energy finance and economic development.

## § PACE Financing

Commercial building owners spend \$200 billion per year on utilities, yet 30% of this is waste. The energy projects that could make these properties efficient often require significant up-front capital and take years to achieve profitability. Commercial loans typically have a tenor of 3-5 years, making the annual repayment greater than the energy savings. PACE changes all this by allowing property owners to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy projects via a property tax special assessment.

City of Troy's elected leaders created a countywide PACE district in February 2016 by joining the statewide Lean & Green Michigan PACE program. Since the County will enforce the PACE assessment just like any other property tax obligation, lenders feel secure in providing fixed-interest loans with terms of up to 25 years. The result is 100% up front financing to facilitate energy-saving projects. In addition, these projects create good jobs, and communities upgrade their building stock, increasing the local tax base over time.



