Hy-Vee Stores

Energy Efficiency in Every Store

Every time a new Hy-Vee store is built, energy efficiency measures are built in. It has become standard practice and aligns with their sustainability commitment to promote the well-being of customers, employees, community and the global environment.

Several Hy-Vee stores have popped up throughout the Twin Cities, and most of them have worked with Xcel Energy’s Energy Design Assistance program. The program uses energy modeling during the design phase to help builders determine which energy saving measures to implement, how much they’ll cost and what the payback will be.

Energy efficiency process

Director of Refrigeration and Energy Management Jon Scanlan says they typically follow a formula. They begin with the building envelope to ensure proper insulation and energy efficient walls, windows and doors. On the inside, they review things like lighting and the refrigeration cases.

“We use doors wherever possible on our refrigeration cases because we can save 70 percent of the energy used,” Scanlan says. “The doors preserve the products better and customers also like that the aisles are warmer.”

Scanlan says LED lighting, daylight harvesting and dimmable lights during the overnight hours are standard along with motion sensors. They typically use EC fan motors and variable frequency drives wherever possible. Another standard measure is air cooling condensers on roof top units.

“We benchmark all of our stores so we’re able to determine our energy usage by square foot,” Scanlan says. “Because of that, we keep learning as we go and we’ve significantly reduced our energy consumption over the last ten years.”

There are other benefits to reviewing energy use. Scanlan says in reviewing their refrigeration, they were able to cut their leaks in half.

Energy savings stats

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average estimated peak energy reduction</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average estimated annual energy cost savings</td>
<td>$96,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Xcel Energy rebate</td>
<td>$123,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“The EDA program lays out all of the facts and options and helps us make decisions. It’s extremely helpful from a user’s perspective.”

Jon Scanlan,
Director of Refrigeration and Energy Management
“We look at the environmental impact in general,” Scanlan says, citing the company’s efforts to minimize landfill contributions and maximize its recycling and organics usage. “We’re trying to save energy, but it’s a whole package approach.”

Their efforts are working.

On average, each Hy-Vee store has reduced its peak energy use by 35 percent, cut energy costs by nearly $100,000 annually and received $123,000 in Xcel Energy rebates.

“The EDA program lays out all of the facts and options and helps us make decisions,” Scanlan says. “It’s extremely helpful from a user’s perspective.”

**Future growth**
Hy-Vee continues to expand throughout the Twin Cities metro and seven other Midwestern states. With each store opening they plan to continue to implement what they’ve learned, and continue saving energy and money along the way.

If you’re planning a new construction, addition or major renovation project, visit xcelenergy.com/BusinessNewConstruction or call the Business Solutions Center at 855.839.8862.