

## Top 10 Reasons to Install VFDs

**Not sure if a variable frequency drive (VFD) would benefit your facility?**

**Consider the following:**

1. VFDs can save on equipment maintenance and extend the life of motor equipment.
2. VFDs improve process control, such as speeding up or slowing down a machine process.
3. VFDs can reduce high noise levels from flow noise, structural vibrations or simply normal equipment operation.
4. VFDs offer bypass capability in the event of an emergency.
5. VFDs work on fans and pumps which are prevalent in many types of businesses.
6. VFDs can be used in both industrial and commercial operations, including:
  - Cold storage
  - Food processing
  - Hotels, motels
  - Manufacturing
  - Property management
  - Retail
  - Schools, universities
  - And many others
7. By reducing or controlling motor speed, VFDs can significantly reduce system energy costs.
8. Most projects pay back in less than two years and some as fast as nine months.
9. Xcel Energy offers assistance with the rebate paperwork process.
10. You can earn cash back. Xcel Energy pays rebates of \$400–\$8,000 for installing a qualifying VFD<sup>1</sup>. Rebates available for both new and retrofit VFDs.

### Need more reasons?

According to the Department of Energy (DOE)<sup>2</sup>, electric motors and drive systems tend to be taken for granted and are among **the least well-managed equipment**—even though motor-driven equipment accounts for approximately 70% of the electrical energy consumed by process industries. This percentage increases to approximately 90% for electrical intensive industries such as mining, oil and gas extraction, and for water supply, wastewater treatment plants and irrigated agriculture. Motors that are not properly managed can and do result in billions of dollars in wasted energy and operating costs to the industry.

### How much can you save?

Xcel Energy offers rebates on a variety of equipment and system improvements, including heating (if Xcel Energy is your gas service provider), cooling and lighting as well as studies and custom projects. To learn about other ways to save money and energy at your facility, contact your account manager, or an energy efficiency specialist at **855.839.8862**, or visit **[xcelenergy.com/Business](http://xcelenergy.com/Business)**.

<sup>1</sup> Rebate amounts vary by horsepower and are subject to full program eligibility and participation requirements, restrictions and limitations. This information as well as the Requirements for Prescriptive VFD Rebates is available at [xcelenergy.com/MotorEfficiency](http://xcelenergy.com/MotorEfficiency).

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, Advanced Manufacturing Office, Continuous Energy Improvement in Motor Driven Systems, A Guidebook for Industry. [http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/04/f15/amo\\_motors\\_guidebook\\_web.pdf](http://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/04/f15/amo_motors_guidebook_web.pdf)



“Energy efficiency is one of the fastest and most cost-effective ways to save money, cut greenhouse gas pollution and help businesses strengthen their bottom lines.”

Ernest Moniz,  
U.S. Energy Secretary