LOADS OF LAUNDRY
NEW TECHNOLOGY SAVES ENERGY AND MONEY

It’s nice when technology advances enough to make it more affordable for everyone. That was the case at Loads of Laundry in Oakdale. Owner Russ Scherping likes being on the cutting edge and offering the latest to his self-serve laundry customers.

He wanted to upgrade to an entirely new laundry system but needed to review the numbers to see if it would make sense financially to make the switch.

He learned that a rebate from Xcel Energy and long-term energy savings would offset the cost enough to make the project worthwhile.

A smarter way to clean
Ozone systems are new to the self-serve laundry industry. They’ve been used in large health care facilities and cleaning companies who do janitorial work for years, but were cost prohibitive for smaller operations.

Here’s how they work: molecular elements are altered by electrical charges that produce ozone. Ozonated water opens fabric fibers to allow faster drying and more efficient soil removal. As a result, less soap is required and laundry comes out cleaner.

The process allows for a lower water temperature, which saves on water heating costs. The entire process is more efficient.

“I wanted to be on the forefront and install something that was environmentally friendly,” Scherping says. “The cost was significant, but we’ll have lower bills over the life of the system.”

Scherping says there was an added benefit.

“The system significantly reduces the sewer gas smell that’s typically found in older laundromats. So in addition to energy savings, it smells better for the customers using the facility.”

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“Project Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Project Cost</th>
<th>$29,048</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Xcel Energy Rebate</td>
<td>$2,778</td>
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<tr>
<td>Payback term</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decatherms saved</td>
<td>556</td>
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New or retrofit ozone laundry systems qualify, including
- Penitentiaries/jails
- Hospitality/hotels
- Hospitals
- Nursing homes/assisted living facilities
- Health clubs and other facilities

Rebates $35 per pound of laundry and are capped at 60% of the project costs, not to exceed $17,500 per ozone unit.

"I wanted to be on the forefront and install something that was environmentally friendly."

Russ Scherping,
Owner, Loads of Laundry
**Long term energy savings**
The overall cost of the project was hefty at almost $30,000. An Xcel Energy rebate offset the cost by about 10 percent. Energy savings over time will help reap a payback term of about four years.

Scherping says the project was worth it. He is now operating much more efficiently and with a cleaner, better smelling facility for his customers to enjoy.

For more information about Xcel Energy’s rebate and energy efficiency programs, please visit [xcelenergy.com/Business](http://xcelenergy.com/Business) or call an energy efficiency specialist at 855.839.8862.