



# RING UP SAVINGS WITH EFFICIENCY UPGRADES

## REFRIGERATION AND LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS DELIVER QUICK PAYBACKS

Whether you manage a single store or operate a chain of grocery stores, it pays to reduce operating costs. Narrow profit margins mean that even modest energy savings can deliver bottom line benefits. Saving just 10 percent on energy costs is equivalent to a 10 percent increase in profits. Because refrigeration and lighting account for approximately 59 percent of energy costs in Pacific Northwest grocery stores, they're a cost-effective place to focus energy-saving improvements. Cash incentives from Energy Trust of Oregon can help offset the costs for a faster payback.

### Continuous energy improvements

Energy efficiency has been a priority for Fred Meyer Stores for many years. In 2009, Fred Meyer invested \$5 million in energy-efficient lighting, refrigeration, HVAC, controls and other upgrades in its 130 Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska stores. The Kroger Co., which owns Fred Meyer, is committed to energy efficiency and makes similar investments in its 2,470 stores nationwide.

The Albany Fred Meyer store replaced 81 evaporator fan motors in walk-in coolers and freezers with Electronically Commutated Motors. ECMs use about one-third the energy of the typical evaporator fan motor in walk-in coolers and payback can be as quick as one year.

“ Incentives helped push our decision for our stores in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Factoring in the incentives made the refrigeration upgrades a good investment that reduces our operating costs year after year.

Daniel Schmidtkofer, energy and utility engineer  
Fred Meyer

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### PROJECT SNAPSHOTS

#### Fred Meyer Stores—Albany

- ECMs for refrigeration systems
- \$7,711 project cost
- \$3,645 Energy Trust cash incentive
- \$2,640 annual energy cost savings

#### Uwajimaya—Beaverton

- High Output T5 lamps and fixture mounted occupancy sensors
- \$12,200 project cost
- \$4,640 Energy Trust cash incentive
- \$3,801 annual energy cost savings

#### Erickson's Thriftway—Prineville

- High-performance T8 lamps
- \$19,220 project cost
- \$5,177 Energy Trust cash incentive
- \$8,013 annual energy cost savings

With estimated annual energy savings of 37,746 kilowatt hours, the \$7,711 project qualified for a \$3,645 Energy Trust incentive and a Business Energy Tax Credit from Oregon Department of Energy. The project trims the store's annual energy costs by approximately \$2,640 each year and reduces maintenance costs.

### Lower costs, better lighting

Asian grocery retailer Uwajimaya took a bite out of operating costs in 2007 with a high-efficiency lighting upgrade at its Beaverton warehouse. High Output T5 four-lamp fluorescent fixtures—which use approximately 49 percent less energy and provide better light levels and light quality—replaced inefficient metal halide fixtures.

To increase savings even more, each of the 28 fixtures was equipped with an occupancy sensor. Each sensor shuts off the light when the space below it is unoccupied for 15 minutes and turns the light on when the zone is reoccupied.

The fixture and sensor project reduces Uwajimaya's annual electricity costs by approximately \$3,801 based on savings of about 55,269 kWh per year. The \$12,200 project penciled out thanks to a \$4,640 Energy Trust incentive and an Oregon Business Energy Tax Credit.

In Prineville, Erickson's Thriftway replaced the main store's T12 fluorescent fixtures with high-performance T8 fluorescent fixtures with magnetic ballasts over the course of two years. Besides trimming the store's energy costs by approximately \$8,013 per year, the project dramatically improved light quality in the store.

A \$5,177 Energy Trust incentive, plus an Oregon Business Energy Tax Credit, helped Erickson's invest in the \$19,220 project. The store also completed lighting upgrades around the exterior and in the storage area.



**We wanted to upgrade the warehouse lighting for the energy savings, but without the incentive and tax credit we would have had to wait. With a nine-month payback, the upgrade became a 'have to do' project.**

**Warren Huch  
assistant manager  
Beaverton Uwajimaya**



## BAG BIGGER PROFITS

Put energy efficiency to work for your bottom line. To learn more about energy-saving improvements and cash incentives for groceries, call 1.866.368.7878 or visit [www.energytrust.org/business](http://www.energytrust.org/business).