

Grocer Saves Annually \$68,000

Case Study Date 10/10/15

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Quick Facts:

- Chavez Grocers have 8 stores in the bay area and counting.
- Annual Savings: 618,362 kWh and \$68,000
- Total Rebate Amount \$52,600

"Once we started seeing the long-term savings, we started to pursue the upgrades whether the rebate was big or small," said Mr. Chavez. "We started doing more and more."


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Family Grocer Wins Big With Retrofit

Today, Chavez Supermarkets are an important and recognizable part of the Hispanic Community in the Bay Area. With 8 stores and counting the amount of cash that this grocery chain spent in energy was substantial. Curbing those costs and being more green was important to the Chavez family.

Cold Craft, Inc. and Energy Smart Grocer teamed up to assist the Chavez family by performing refrigeration

retrofits as well as changing the cases so they were more energy efficient. That included adding doors to the cases and displays. This helped also with keeping the patrons more comfortable while shopping as well as making Chavez Markets very green. According to Small Business Chron other similar companies have seen customers respond positively to the green changes and sales have jumped somewhere

around 20%.

For Chavez Markets the savings were worth doing since they saved over \$68K annually and received a rebate to do the work. Smart Grocer also has on-bill financing to assist with these upgrades and that can make the difference of whether a grocer can make the retrofit changes or not.

Program Benefits

EnergySmart Grocer worked with Cold Craft, Inc. and the Chavez family during energy and refrigeration retrofit.

Program benefits of EnergySmart include comprehensive no-cost energy audit, customized energy efficiency investment plan, technical expertise and guidance, rebates to offset the installation costs, significant energy savings and a quick return on investment.

Items that were addressed were lighting, refrigeration systems, food and drink cases, HVAC systems and more. Opportunities were basically everywhere. The Field Energy Analyst was about to show expected energy savings and available rebates for each potential improvement.

Without Mr. Chavez' long term vision, the energy and cost savings would not be possible.

"Because these projects help us save money on energy bills, we are able to keep our prices low. All of the families we serve have come to rely on us for that: good products at good prices." Eduardo Chavez.