

Smarter Refrigeration Technology Helps Colorado Ski Resort Decrease its Energy Consumption



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The Situation

In a high profile, rocky mountain ski town in Colorado, the team at Nordic Refrigeration developed a way for restaurants to drastically reduce their energy consumption by taking advantage of the naturally cold winter temperatures.

In partnership with a local ski mountain, Nordic installed their patent pending refrigeration economizer at an on-mountain restaurant. As a destination ski resort, the mountain's management knows the importance of reducing their environmental impact. Plus, the efficiency gained from lower energy usage contributes to savings that can directly help other areas of the business.

With an altitude above 8,000 ft., this ski town experiences average daily temperatures below freezing more than 40% of the year. In these conditions, any business that depends on refrigeration needs to be aware of this new way to reduce their energy usage. Especially considering that refrigeration can account for 40-60% of a facility's monthly energy costs. This not only goes for restaurants, but for liquor stores, convenience stores, and grocery stores too.

The Solution

The Nordic Economizer targets the highest energy consuming equipment for food service businesses – walk-in coolers. The progressive design harnesses the naturally occurring cold winter air to refrigerate large coolers. Plus, their system conditions the cooler to a narrow temperature range (regardless of how cold it gets outside) in order to maintain consistent product temperatures, and ultimately preserve the foods' shelf life.

For the local ski resort mentioned above, the economizer drastically reduced the mechanical system run-time by 96% and used 92% less energy than their existing walk-in refrigeration system. The resort was so pleased with the results, they ordered 6 more for their other facilities.

Now, with the proven success of their invention, Nordic is working with utility companies to offer rebates for customers installing their economizers.

EXHIBIT 1: During the winter test period, the Economizer reduced the mechanical run time by 96%...

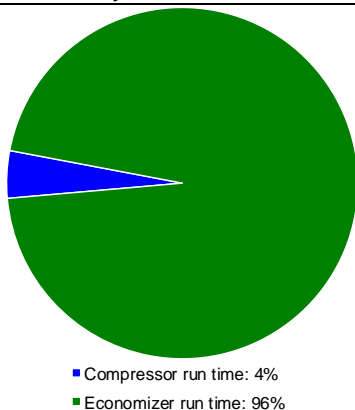


EXHIBIT 2: ... While maintaining a consistent operating temperature, regardless of outside air temperature

