

Everyday Environmental Stewardship



Vending Misers *Andrew Siliski*

Key issue:
Inefficient Vending Machines

Stewardship Opportunity
Lower Machine Energy Use

Vending machines offer houses of worship the opportunity to continually provide congregants with drinks and snacks. These machines are often missed as opportunities for stewardship. Large soda companies are not concerned about the operating costs of the machines because they do not have to pay for the operating costs. Vending machines for soft drinks continually keep drinks close to 32 degrees even when there is no one present even during the nighttime and parts of the weekdays. Vending misers reduce operating costs by 46% and are tested and approved by the major soft drink companies.

What It Is

A vending miser has a small infrared motion detector which can be attached either onto a wall or the machine itself. When there is a small number of people (or no one around at all) moving around the vending machine, the miser tells the machine to not cool the drinks as much, reducing the amount of cooling the unit does thus reducing the amount of electricity consumed. It also monitors the room's temperature and powers the machine up and down in one to three hour intervals to make sure the drinks stay cold. One vending miser motion detector can operate up to four machines, each having a connected miser in 'slave mode'.

Environmental Benefits

Vending misers reduce electricity consumption by almost 50% and are among the easiest opportunities for environmental stewardship. The reduction can be \$100 to \$150 per machine. The Cooling Miser reduces 1,600 lbs of CO₂ and 2.74 kg of NO_x from reaching the atmosphere based on the national average of emissions from electricity production.

Longer Machine Lifespan

Vending Misers lengthen the life of a vending machine and reduce the need for maintenance saving an additional \$40-\$80 in annual maintenance costs. The miser never

powers down the machine while it is running. This eliminates the compressor short cycling and lengthens the life of the unit. The cooling cycle is allowed to finish.

Rebates and Incentives

NStar and WME are the only utilities offering rebates for vending misers at this time. Contact them for more information and rebate forms.

Vending Miser Models

Vending Miser

The Vending Miser is the energy efficiency tool for vending machines. It is for soda machines and turns off the lights and compressor cooling cycles when they are not needed.

Snack Miser

The Snack Miser is much like the Vending Miser, except that since snack machines don't have compressors for refrigeration neither does this.

Cooler Miser

The Cooler Miser is much like the Vending Miser, except that it is designed for sliding door coolers instead of sealed vending machines.

Plug Miser

The Plug Miser is much like Vending Miser, except that it does not offer compressor management functionality

Links

Go to... http://www.usatech.com/energy_management/energy_vm.php...for all of your vending miser needs. Be sure to mention MIP&L.