Case Study | Grocery
Identified $500k in annual energy savings opportunities in 2 months

The Customer

Portfolio Overview
Fortune 50 multinational corporation
Type: Grocery, Retail
Size: 3,000+ stores
Geography: North America, South America, Central America, Asia, United Kingdom
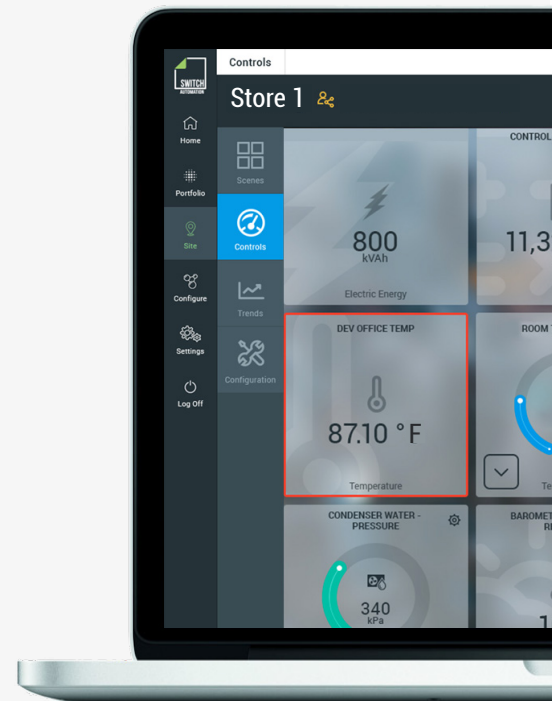
Phase 1 Deployment
150 U.S. stores
40,000 - 150,000+ sq ft per store
40+ states

The Opportunity

Grocery chains must carefully manage razor-thin profit margins - an average of 1% - and have a unique set of facilities challenges. A seemingly minor operational mishap has the power to significantly impact the bottom line. The U.S. EPA estimates that every $1 in energy savings is equivalent to $59 in increased sales. Therefore, it's critical to have efficient, reliable systems and equipment to ensure operational success.

Our customer operates more than 3,000 multinational grocery and discount stores. They implemented Switch Portfolio Intelligence at 150 stores in the U.S. to identify underperforming and faulty equipment, in an effort to reduce energy costs. Prior to integrating stores with the Switch Platform, this grocer's team had to sort through equipment inventories and cumbersome, outdated energy management systems to uncover issues across their portfolio. Switch provides real-time analysis and powerful visualization tools to help the team immediately identify emergent issues and diagnose root cause.

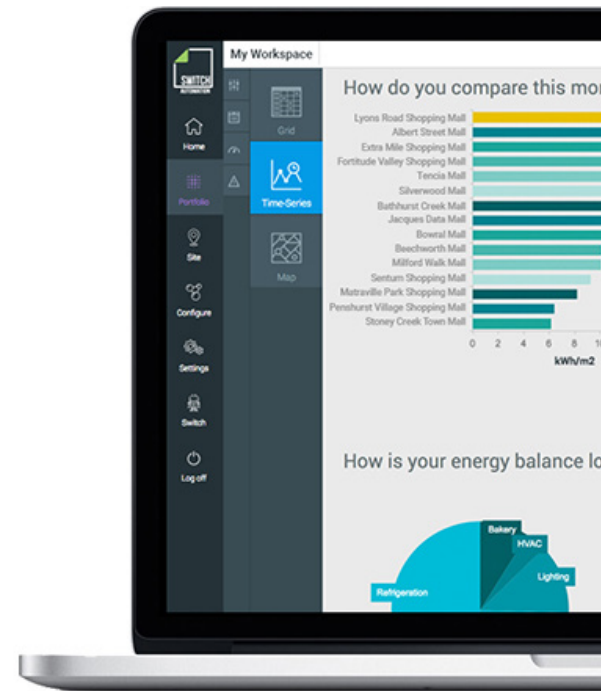
Switch Automation's Contol Feature

The Solution

Switch Portfolio Intelligence

Switch Portfolio Intelligence took the time-consuming guesswork out of portfolio management by discovering and prioritizing opportunities based on their highest potential for savings. The energy team uses 15-minute interval data from HVAC, lighting, refrigeration and dehumidification sub-metering systems, synthesized in user-configurable dashboards (Switch Workspaces), to see exactly which stores and sub-systems perform outside of their weather-normalized benchmarks and to what degree. Now their team is able to investigate each energy anomaly, completing the full cycle of opportunity management from identification to resolution.

Switch Platform in Action

The lighting load in an Arizona grocery store exceeded expected energy consumption, triggering daily alerts in the Switch Platform. Our customer investigated the anomaly in their lighting controls and quickly identified a disabled dimmer as the root cause. In a matter of minutes, the building performance team remotely reset the dimmer settings, saving an estimated $25k annually.

Switch Automation's Workspace

How it works

Connect

After configuring an automated data feed to the Switch Platform via a secure file transfer protocol (SFTP), the Switch Systems Integration team collected several years of sub-metering data for all 150 stores, averaging 12 sub-meters per store.

Manage

Using 3+ years of historical data, Switch data scientists used regression models to establish weather-normalized performance benchmarks and predictive analytics. Our Engineering Services team then collaborated with program management to build site-specific energy costs in the Platform for accurate opportunity evaluation.

Improve

Using Switch's in-Platform analytics and logic, our customer can identify anomalies in store performance, understand the cost of each anomaly and determine which sub-system is responsible. The Platform sends the energy team weekly alert summaries to help them maintain an up-to-date list of prioritized action items and track overall portfolio performance.

SWITCH
AUTOMATION

The Results
$500k in annual energy savings opportunities identified in 2 months

Within two months, Switch's Portfolio Intelligence identified 60 benchmark performance deviations across 150 U.S. store locations, resulting in an estimated annual savings of $500k+. Using the Platform's configurable alert logic, our customer filtered opportunities based on highest potential cost savings, resulting in an average expected energy savings of $1,000 per site. Team members continue to share Switch Workspaces and comments with one another across the entire portfolio to communicate findings and next steps.

"Before we started using the Switch Platform, I spent my entire year combing through a list of stores with aging lighting controllers looking for underperformers. It was like searching for a needle in a haystack. With Portfolio Intelligence, I'm much more efficient because I can just log into the Platform to see my top priorities."

— **Building Performance Analyst,**
International Grocery Store

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