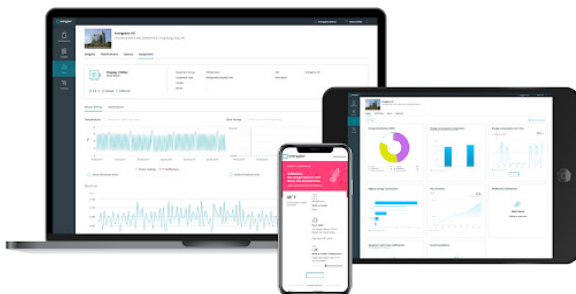


CASE STUDY

Duale Industries



Duale Industries, a Wendy's operator for over 30 years, owns and operates Wendy's restaurants across Iowa and Minnesota. As energy, labor, and products costs increase throughout the nation, Duale Industries was looking for ways to significantly reduce costs and establish a more profitable, future-proof operation.

Operational Challenges

Quick service restaurants have dozens of critical equipment running around the clock to ensure that the business is ready to serve its customers. Although there are defined run times and standard operating procedures for when equipment should be turned on and off, it is often difficult for General Managers and local teams to follow these schedules strictly as they have several other tasks to manage. Duale was experiencing the following:

- Equipment turned on too early or turned off too late
- Equipment left on overnight
- Equipment life reduction from excess usage

This all led to Duale Industries receiving energy bills that, at times, were exceeding \$5,000 per month and they had no visibility into the energy consumption for the various equipment throughout their restaurants.

**Energybox
sensors capture
temperatures every
10 minutes and
stores the data for
historical access.**

Being founded on the words, "Quality is our Recipe," Wendy's and its operators strive to deliver the best experience to customers. That being said, running out of product due to an equipment failure or not ensuring food safety is unacceptable for the brand and its customers. Storing food at improper temperatures compromises its quality, and may require the food to be thrown out. Each product loss incident costs an operator several hundred, often thousands, of dollars. Duale Industries needed a way to monitor temperatures in all refrigeration units to prevent product loss, maximize food safety, and automate manual equipment temperature check processes.

Energybox Solution

To address their operational challenges and significantly reduce costs, Duale selected Energybox, a leading IoT Automation & Solutions company, to deploy their AutoScheduler, EnergyTracker, and SiteHero solutions.

AutoScheduler, a robust energy controls solution, automates startup and shutdown of equipment with dynamic scheduling. Energybox's cloud-based platform has allowed Duale to set operating schedules for key equipment such as their lighting, fryers, and HVAC units among others, saving hundreds of dollars each month.

Before working with Energybox, Duale had no way of understanding which equipment was consuming the most energy at their restaurants, or if equipment had lost power. EnergyTracker monitors energy consumption of equipment in real-time. This allows the operator to receive immediate notifications if equipment fails or loses power, benchmark similar equipment across their restaurant portfolio, and gain valuable insights to take necessary cost-saving actions.

SiteHero was implemented at Duale's Wendy's restaurants to prevent product loss and redirect labor. SiteHero automates operations by monitoring key temperatures and door access in real-time. A tiered notification setup was customized for each restaurant to minimize false alerts and noise while letting District Managers, GMs, and local staff become aware of any deviations in equipment performance. Restaurants generally check the temperatures of their refrigeration units a few times per day, while Energybox sensors capture temperatures every 10 minutes and stores the data for historical access via the platform.

Outcome

Implementing Energybox solutions requires no capital expenditure and they are offered on a Solution-as-a-Service model, so Duale Industries achieved significant return on investment from day one. Duale accomplished the following:

- Reduce energy consumption and save hundreds per month at each restaurant by automating startup and shutdown of equipment
- Maximize equipment life and reduce maintenance costs by optimizing run times
- Prevent product loss at their Walk in Freezer with automated temperature, door access and energy notifications within first month of installation
- Automate manual equipment processes for temp checks and startup/shutdown

All Energybox solutions reside on a single platform and are designed to complement one another, so Duale also has access to valuable insights and benchmarking tools to further improve their operation and savings. Duale Industries' objective was to partner with a provider that would digitize their operations to combat their operational challenges in a cost effective approach. Working with Energybox allowed Duale to meet and exceed their targets.

\$864

Monthly Savings
per Site

22

Labor Hours
Redirected per Month

\$10.5K

Annual Savings
per Site

11

Days to ROI

“Energybox is significantly reducing energy and operational costs for our Wendy's restaurants. On top of that, their notifications prevent product loss from equipment failures.

-Jeff Mosiman, Wendy's Owner for over 33 years

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