



## Taco Bell Success Story

'Think Outside The Bun'. That's what Taco Bell does. And they do it deliciously well!

The company also thinks outside the box when it comes finding smart ways to reduce their restaurant's environmental footprint.

When Dwayne Kostiha, VP of Operational Services at Austaco Ltd, a franchisee of Taco Bell, started investigating ways he could more easily manage the energy consumption of his 80 Taco Bell restaurants across Central Texas, he felt a bit overwhelmed. It certainly wasn't an easy feat.

Well aware that 40% of the energy consumption at his Taco Bell locations was directly related to his heating and cooling equipment, Dwayne was eager to identify a solution that would reduce his HVAC footprint, all while helping the company save on operation costs.

**"A tremendous amount of profit has been lost over the years due to the mismanagement of the thermostats."**

So Dwayne installed ecobee Energy Management System (EMS) into his Taco Bell locations.

### Significant energy and cost savings

Dwayne now has visibility to all his thermostats and HVAC performance via his personalized web portal—from anywhere! And he can configure settings so that personnel can adjust the thermostat by no more than plus or minus three degrees. Having these parameters has resulted in huge energy and cost savings. For example, in Texas, raising the thermostat by 1 degree adds approximately 4% to your energy bill!

One of Dwayne's Taco Bell stores has demonstrated energy savings of 8-12% since the installation 10 months ago.

### It goes beyond just savings and comfort...

For added control of his stores, Dwayne has installed Remote Sensor Modules in his walk-in fridges and freezers. Now whenever the temperature rises to a level where food will be spoiled, Dwayne receives automatic alerts via email. In fact, he's already saved his food supply on two separate occasions!

### And he found the sweet spot!

For each restaurant location, Dwayne says he has found the 'sweet spot'. The sweet spot is the temperature that's saving the most energy possible while ensuring his customers and employees are comfortable too.

### What's next?

In the next year, Dwayne plans to install ecobee thermostats in the remainder of his stores. And he's really looking forward to his bragging rights at the next management meeting when his colleagues see how much he's saved in energy costs.

**"Many of the competitive products we examined just weren't as intuitive as the ecobee EMS. . . the ecobee seemed to have it all—it was the perfect solution for our needs."**

-Dwayne Kostiha, VP Operational Services

