

CASE STUDY

CUSTOMER

The University of Chicago

PROJECTS

Steam and Heat Recovery at
Central Steam Facility

REBATE AMOUNT

\$285,000

ENERGY SAVINGS

215,398 therms

CUSTOMER BACKGROUND

Since the University of Chicago opened its doors in 1892, it has become one of the world's premiere academic and research institutions. With the university's continuous growth, it has also become one of Peoples Gas' largest customers. The university's South Steam Plant generates heat for the entire campus, including the University of Chicago Medical Center. The steam plant also generated much of the cooling on campus through steam-powered air conditioners before the university opened its South Chiller Plant in 2009.



Project Description

As such a large energy user, the University of Chicago presents a tremendous opportunity for natural gas savings. To evaluate the significant natural gas efficiency opportunities across the campus, an energy team was formed comprised of representatives from the university, Peoples Gas Major Accounts and the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program.

The team identified many natural gas efficiency opportunities and prioritized the implementation of several projects. These projects, all at the university's South Steam Plant, included non-return valve replacements, along with heat exchangers on the boiler blowdown and deaerator tank. In addition to boiler improvements, the university also completed steam trap replacements, steam pipe insulation and boiler tune-ups around campus, contributing to greater efficiency at the South Steam Plant.

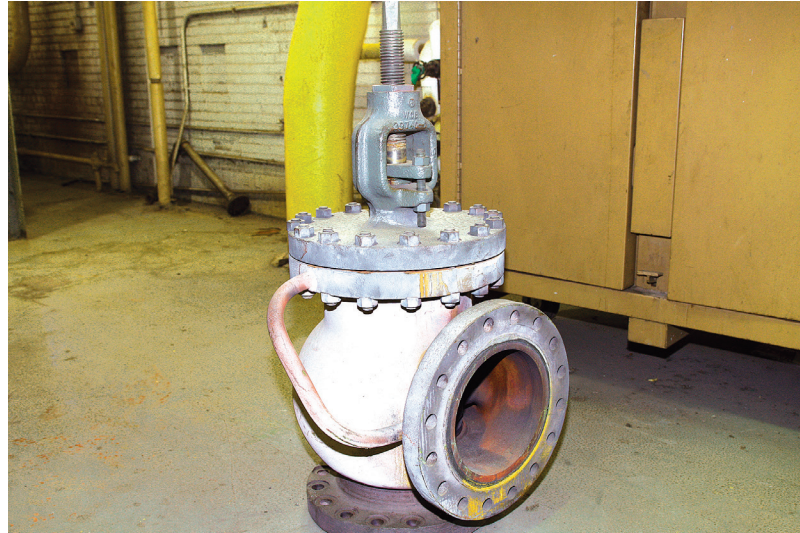
Project Team

- Sumit Ray, Director, Engineering & Utilities, University of Chicago
- Dan Carey, Manager, Central Utility Plants, University of Chicago
- Adam Lucido, Foreman, Central Utility Plants, University of Chicago
- Tom Tucker, Principal, Kinergetics
- Leon Dorsey, Account Executive, Peoples Gas
- Rick Pettibone, Senior Energy Advisor, Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program
- Adam Roche, Energy Engineer, Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program
- Jim Hauser, Energy Advisor, Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program

Impact

The University of Chicago participated in the program to optimize funding, achieving savings in excess of \$250,000. The coordination between the university and Peoples Gas allowed the teams to perform multiple project tasks in parallel. During the design phase, the team was able to simultaneously obtain cost estimates and order long leadtime items to complete the project. In the end, this project resulted in the achievement of the targeted energy savings in a short time frame.

The Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Programs team is available to help you capture similar savings at your business. Call 855-849-8928 today to schedule a facility assessment with one of our energy experts.



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