



How much can you save with energy-saving walk-in features?

The 2009 US Energy Independence and Security Act mandates a number of energy-saving features for walk-in refrigerators and freezers. Kolpak walk-ins are available to meet these requirements, and provide energy savings that save you money. So what savings can you expect, and what's the typical payback period?

A California Energy Commission report indicates that the potential per-unit annual electrical use savings for a 240 square foot walk-in refrigerator is 13,377 kWh, and for a same-sized walk-in freezer is 5,097 kWh. That translates to annual savings of \$1,538 and a \$15,694 for a 10-year life for the walk-in refrigerator. For the walk-in freezer, the annual savings were estimated at \$586, and \$5,139 for a 10-year life for the walk-in freezer according to the California report.

Here's a chart showing estimated savings and anticipated payback, from the California Energy Commission report:

Walk-In Refrigerators and Freezers

Walk-In Type	Added First Cost per unit (\$)	Annual Unit Energy Savings (kWh)	Annual Unit Energy Cost Savings (\$)	Design Life (years)	Simple Payback Period
Refrigerator	1,321	13,377	1,538 @ \$0.115/kWh	10	0.9 year
Freezer	1,344	5,097	586 @ \$0.115/kWh	10	2.3 years

Savings in your operation will vary based on a number of variables, including but not limited to your local electricity costs, the size of the unit, the features selected, the operating environment and maintenance of your walk-in, and your geographic area.