CASE STUDY

Oracle Corporation, Redwood Shores, CA

Isolé Provides Solution to Monitor Power "Sleep Mode" Dilemma at Oracle Corp

During California's energy crisis, Oracle was passionate about implementing cost-effective energy saving solutions. In search of ways to automatically turn off monitors and other personal appliances when the office is unoccupied, Oracle turned to The Watt Stopper's Isolé plug load controllers.

After years of using The Watt Stopper's occupancy sensors to control overhead lighting, Dr. Mukesh Khattar, Oracle's Energy Director, was aware of the products' reliability and energy savings potential. Dr. Khattar found that The Watt Stopper's Isolé IDP-3050 Plug Load Controls provided similar occupancy sensing control, but for equipment and appliances connected to a power strip.

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During that time, a number of Oracle's desktop computers used the Windows NT™ operating systems, which were unable to automatically go into 'sleep mode' when not in use. Isolé products provided an ideal solution. Dr. Khattar said, "Isolé's ability to turn off computer monitors and other loads such as desk lamps during times of vacancy without turning off the PC was exactly what we were looking for."

Through its energy conservation budget and partial energy incentives* offered in California, Oracle Corporation installed a total of 5,200 Isolé units in their Redwood Shores, CA, campus. Isolé now covers more than 1.9 million sq ft of Oracle office space.

Isolé provides Oracle with desktop energy savings of up to 40% in plug loads costs. It also reduces peak demand by keeping desktop equipment off when cubicles are unoccupied and may improve equipment life.

Oracle, the world's largest enterprise software company, installed Isolé primarily in cubicles, as well as in some offices and computer labs. Isolé's personal sensor constantly monitors occupancy and ensures that all equipment plugged into the power strip's designated outlets remains off when the space is vacant for a predetermined, user-selectable time duration. Equipment automatically turns on when the space is occupied again.

Oracle employees plug desktop equipment such as monitors, task lamps, calculators and radios into Isolé's six controlled outlets. The IDP-3050s also feature two uncontrolled outlets, which are used for essential equipment such as CPUs and other equipment that should not be switched off – this equipment remains on without interruption.

To simplify the set-up process and to maximize occupant satisfaction, Dr. Khattar included an instructional flyer with each unit, so employees would know how to properly install and use the power strip and sensor. Most employees are currently using the products and feedback has been very positive.

The company is pleased with Isolé's ability to keep computer monitors and other personal appliances off when they're not needed, and they are happy with the energy savings from the reduction of plug load hours of usage.

The company plans to equip other facilities with The Watt Stopper's plug load controls in the future.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) funded the 'Office Equipment Efficiency Program', managed by Energy Solutions, and the 'Express Efficiency Program', managed by PG&E; both companies teamed with The Watt Stopper for the project at Oracle.