# ONE-STOP EFFICIENCY SHOP®: HOPE IS NOT A STRATEGY

Presented at the 2015 ACEEE National Conference on Energy Efficiency as a Resource



**Senior Program Manager** 



### What we do

- Program Design and Delivery
- Lending Center
- Engineering Services
- Innovation Exchange
- Public Policy





"Hope Is Not A Strategy is the best single source for mastering the art of selling complex, high-tech products and services."

—Tom Kosnik, Consulting Professor, Stanford University

# HOPE IS NOT A STRATEGY

The 6 Keys to Winning the Complex Sale

**RICK PAGE** 

Personal Trainer to 25,000 Sales Superstars



# One-Stop Efficiency Shop's® Successes...

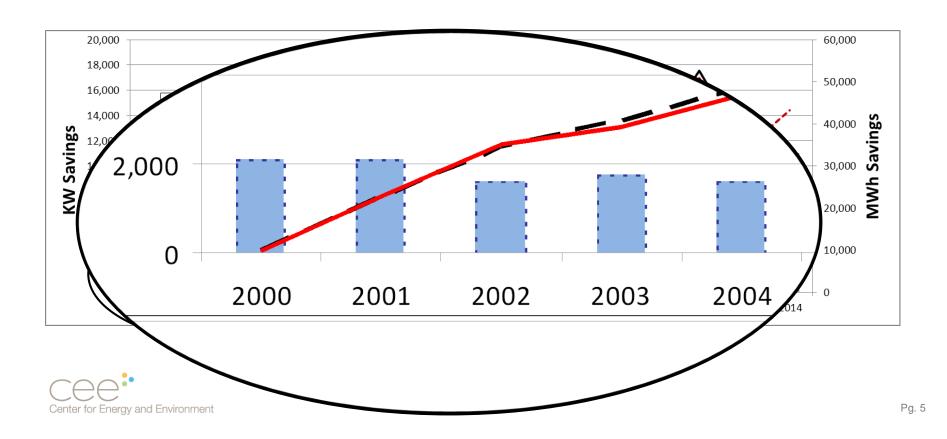
- Saved 114 MW and 404,000 MWh
- 12,170 participants
- \$49M rebates
- \$480M lifetime savings
- \$204M avoided costs



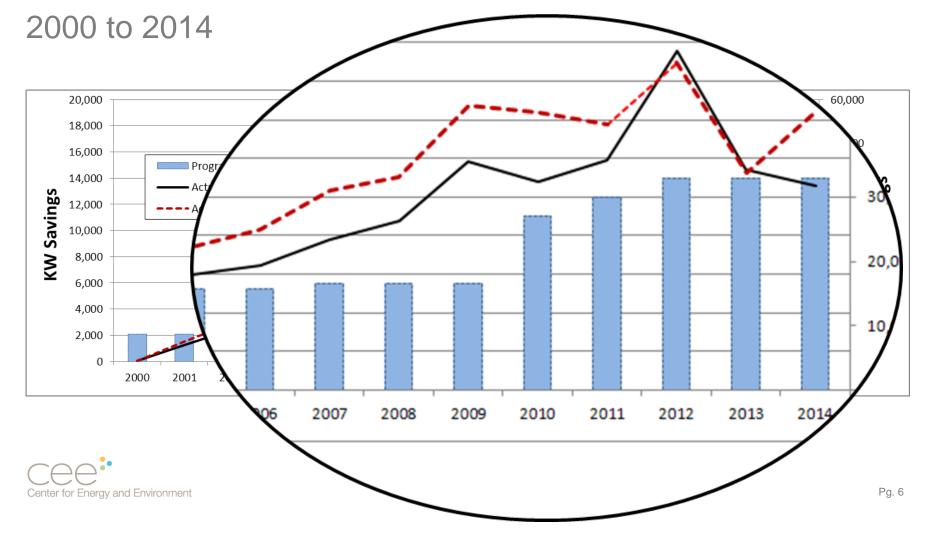


# ...Didn't Happen Overnight

One-Stop Efficiency Shop Program Performance – 2000 to 2014



One-Stop Efficiency Shop Program Performance –



# Employed Best Practices

- Free lighting assessment/recommendations
- Significant incentives
- Attractive financing
- Program contractors
- Completion/submission of all final paperwork



### What We Learned

- Full service is essential but not enough
- Audits do not equal implementation
- Our reasons are not their reasons
- Everyone has finite resources, including us



### What We Learned

- Energy efficiency is a product
- Energy efficiency does not sell itself
- Energy efficiency needs to be sold



We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.

- Albert Einstein



#### What Did We Rethink

- Lead generation
- Staffing
- Vendor relationships
- Software





[M]ost of the leads that sales receive aren't qualified leads or appropriate buyers for what is being sold.

> Lead Generation for the Complex Sale



### All Leads are not Created Equal

- Interest and opportunity should intersect
- Defining a good lead opportunity
- Type of lighting?
- Business type?

Building characteristics?





# All Leads are not Created Equal

- Defining a good lead interest
- Lease/budget?
- High energy bill a concern?
- Looking for ways to reduce energy use?
- Concerns about light levels or lighting quality
  - Frequently burned out lights
  - Poor color
  - Brightness
  - High maintenance costs





# All Leads are not Created Equal

- Prioritize leads
- Determine appropriate level of contact
- Follow up as needed



A-B-C. A-Always, B-Be, C-Closing.

Always be closing, always be closing.

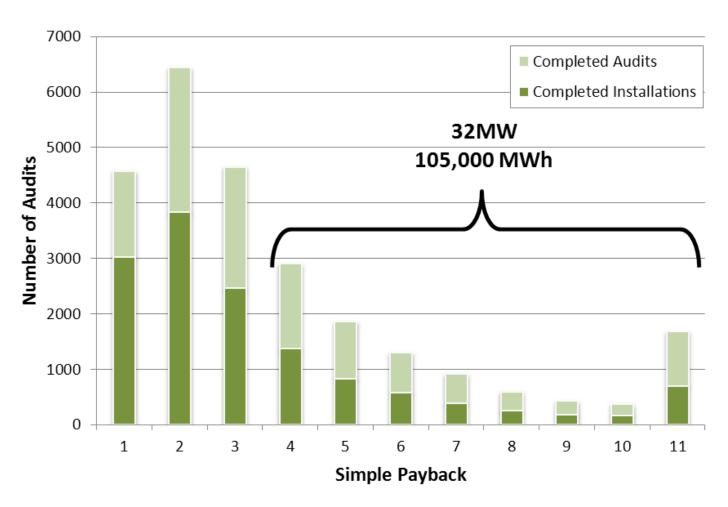
- Glengarry Glen Ross





| Tellers                         | Sellers                           |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Give information                | Solve Problems                    |
| Leave decision to the prospect  | Gain conviction                   |
| Present features                | Translate features into benefits  |
| Avoid rejection                 | Risk rejection                    |
| Try to win by showing knowledge | Win by closing sales              |
| Use rational level              | Use emotional and rational levels |
| Reactive                        | Proactive                         |
| Want structure and stability    | Accept uncertainty as the norm    |
| Identify needs                  | Intensify needs and wants         |
| Everyone comes to your door     | You go to everyone's door         |







- Many reasons for participating
  - Good for environment
  - High maintenance costs
  - Want the latest technology
  - Tax write-off
  - Capital improvement
  - Inadequate equipment
- Auditor must be able to identify "hot buttons"



# Vendors are also Program Participants

The purpose of a business is to create a mutually beneficial relationship between itself and those that it serves. When it does that well, it will be around tomorrow to do it some more.

John Woods



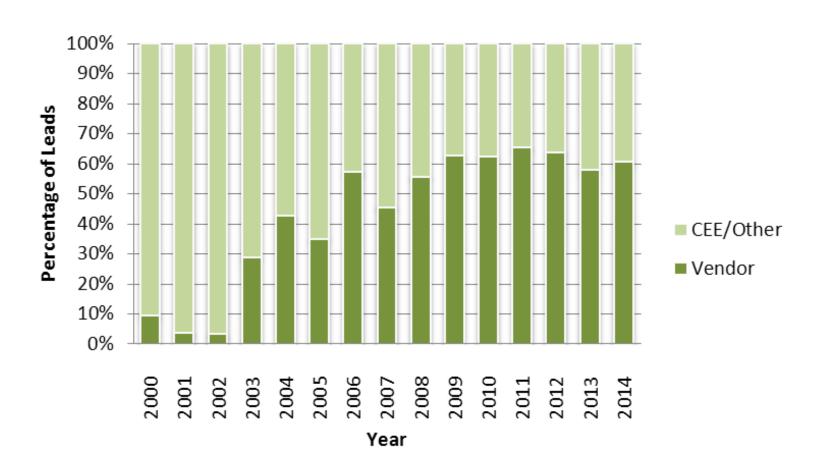
# Vendors are also Program Participants

- View vendors as customers, not just allies or partners
- Purposefully create relationships
- Educate beyond program process
- Customer service
- Technology
- Selling techniques





## Vendors are also Program Participants





I am putting myself to the fullest possible use, which is all I think that any conscious entity can ever hope to do.

- Hal 9000, 2001 A Space Odyssey



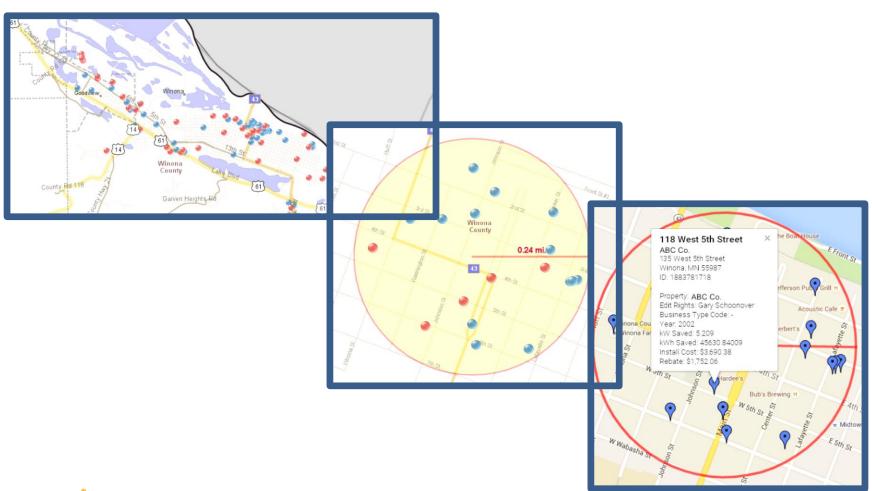
- Features
  - Platform to enter recommendations
  - Completes savings, rebate and financing calculations
  - Generates all necessary reporting
  - Retains all audits from beginning of program



- Benefits
  - Customization of individual recommendations
  - Easily create multiple versions
  - Query against a live database on any piece of information collected at audit
  - Ability to track technology trends, sales opportunities and market penetration









### Conclusions

- Define what a good lead is
- Hire staff with sales experience
- Aggressively build relationships with vendors
- Utilize a robust support software





It is not your customer's job to remember you. It is your obligation and responsibility to make sure they don't have the chance to forget you.

Patricia Fripp





#### Kristen Funk

Center for Energy and Environment Phone: (612) 335-3487 Email: kfunk@mncee.org

www.mncee.org