



## *Franchisee cuts energy costs, saves time with Proliphix HVAC energy management solution*



### PROBLEM

- Needed to streamline energy management controls
- Accidentally leaving existing thermostats in override mode cost hundreds of dollars per site
- Multiple facilities needed to be managed remotely
- Environmental comfort needed improvement

### SOLUTION

- Proliphix Uniphy Network Thermostats
- Remote sensors for asset protection
- Univista Energy Management software for Internet-managed energy control

### BENEFITS

- Remotely determined power outages during poor weather
- Direct one-to-one thermostat replacement streamlined training energy controls
- Override protection – all locations are programmed from a single site, by a single person and automatically return to presets
- Setback Override saved thousands, prevents abuse
- More comfortable working
- Less environmental impact

Tax preparation services company Jackson Hewitt®, Inc is independently operated by regional franchise owners independently operating multiple geographically separated stores. David Montgomery, district facilities manager of JH Buckeye Inc., a management company of Ohio-based Jackson Hewitt locations, needed a way to efficiently monitor and control the energy demands of the group's 52 Ohio-based stores.

David Montgomery and JH Buckeye Inc. found the existing HVAC controls to be very limited in capability. Of 52 stores, there were at least 30 different types of thermostats in use, making staff training to operate the various models tedious and time consuming. The existing controls lacked reporting features and were incapable of remote management. Further, the HVAC controls lacked remote monitoring and control functions for preventing excessive energy costs due to staff neglect or abuse. For example, if staff accidentally left a thermostat set to an occupied status during the off-season, no one would be alerted until the company received a costly energy bill of nearly \$500 at month end. David Montgomery knew he needed a cost-effective way to add smart thermostats and a flexible energy management solution to retrofit the 50 plus locations under his management.

Montgomery needed to gain greater visibility to the operations and cost of heating and cooling expenses. He also wanted to reduce the company's environmental impact and leverage usage reporting to optimize operation. Further, he wanted a single fault tolerant, easy to install, direct replacement of existing equipment.

He found the answer to his product needs when he discovered Proliphix and its line of intelligent thermostats and energy management solutions.

**"We now have visibility and control of more than 50 stores from a single point. Proliphix helped simplify our energy management, saving us thousands yearly."**

**David Montgomery, Jackson Hewitt Facility Manager**





## SEASONAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CASE STUDY



P R O L I P H I X

“Proliphix’s setback override helped us manage and control our costs quickly and efficiently,” said Montgomery

### SOLUTION

JH Buckeye Inc. tasked District Facility Manager, David Montgomery with finding an energy management solution and he discovered Proliphix. The affordability and ease of installation of the Proliphix energy management solutions caught David’s interest. The company chose the NT120h thermostat for its robust programming and flexible override options.

Proliphix offered JH Buckeye Inc. Internet-managed energy conservation at a fraction of the cost of traditional energy management solutions. An industry leader for inexpensive yet sophisticated energy conservation products, Proliphix worked directly with David Montgomery to equip 52 Jackson Hewitt locations throughout Ohio with the best possible equipment to meet the company’s needs.

Montgomery outfitted all locations under his management with Proliphix equipment in a very short time. Each of Montgomery’s NT120h’s were connected to existing data networks in each location, providing instant access and control through Proliphix’s **Uniphy Remote Management Service**. This allows easy access to every thermostat from any laptop, desktop computer or cell phone with a basic Internet browser.

### BENEFITS

Among the first benefits experienced by JH Buckeye Inc. was a drastic reduction in time spent training new and returning staff on the operation of the Proliphix thermostats. With a standardized implementation there is now one type of thermostat installed in every location under JH Buckeye Inc., allowing for staff to easily transfer among locations, easily train fellow staff and transfer the equipment to new locations as needed.

“Proliphix’s setback override helped us manage and control our costs quickly and efficiently,” said Montgomery.

Montgomery was able to view the environmental control settings of each location remotely. He was able to identify problem sites, including one store where employees set the heat above 80 degrees Fahrenheit. He was able to set a schedule for the thermostats at that site and actively monitor and control the site to prevent further abuse. He also used the setback override feature to keep employees happy and comfortable. Setback override allowed him to program heating and cooling schedules for specific degrees and times that employees could alter for a defined period of time before returning to the programmed schedule.

Additionally, since JH Buckeye idles its stores during summer and fall months - the off-season for the tax preparation industry – thermostats are then set to the lowest consumption settings possible. When staff visit sites to perform routine maintenance they adjust the cooling settings to their liking. While the previous HVAC controls would remain at the new setting indefinitely until re-adjusted, the Proliphix units automatically adjust back to their preset schedules. This feature alone saves David Montgomery and his staff hundreds to thousands of dollars annually.

“We now have visibility and control of more than 50 stores from a single point. Proliphix helped simplify our energy management, saving us thousands yearly,” Montgomery said.