

Zero Zone Green

Sustainability In Our Processes, Our Plants, Our Products



Achieving balance...

Ensuring a brighter future for all

A breath of fresh air

What is it worth to you to know your children and their children's children will enjoy a world restored to balance?

Our employees know what it's worth and they are working hard to make that dream a reality.

Our promise to our employees, our customers, our planet



- Healing the ozone layer, reducing harmful CO₂ emissions, decreasing pollution, managing waste and accelerating recycling efforts. These are not simply noble goals; they are essential to the future of the Earth and all the forms of life that inhabit it.
- That is why we are committed to achieving even higher levels of sustainability in our processes, our plants and our products.
- That is why we have become an active member of the US Environmental Protection Agency's GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership.
- That is why we are leveraging our legacy of producing energy-efficient equipment and systems that foster the enduring environmental balance we are pledged to achieve.
- At Zero Zone, our logo isn't the only thing that's green.

David Morrow, President & CEO

Protecting North America's food supply



- Since 1961, Zero Zone has produced energy-efficient, refrigerated, glass door display cases for the retail food industry, providing an energy-saving alternative to open multi-decks for frozen foods, ice cream, dairy, deli and beverages.
- Zero Zone's vision is "to be recognized as the premier source for value-added refrigeration solutions in North America." To achieve this goal, Zero Zone employees are committed to exceeding customer expectations through innovation, quality and responsiveness.
- With its GreenChill partnership, Zero Zone broadens its pledge to provide refrigeration solutions that are efficient, cost-effective and which further the goals of sustainability for Zero Zone and its customers.

Sustainable resource management



- At our manufacturing plant in Ramsey, Minnesota, Zero Zone manufactures refrigeration systems and electrical controls, offering them to food retailers and a wide range of industrial customers. This equipment is known for its energy efficient design, longevity and ease of installation.
- To safeguard the environment, Zero Zone also designs and manufactures a patented oil management system and patented refrigerant management system. This critical equipment helps customers guard against catastrophic system leaks while responsibly managing resources.
- Zero Zone also offers distributed refrigeration systems, glycol refrigeration systems, and alternative refrigeration technologies. These advanced products underscore our commitment to deliver ever higher levels of sustainability while minimizing or eliminating environmental impact.

In a world where lowest initial price is king, Zero Zone dares to present customers with a unique value proposition: quality products that require fewer resources to assemble, use less energy, last longer, and have lessened environmental impact, both during manufacture and in actual use.

Our approach must be working, because our customers keep coming back for more. They, too, realize that sound business practices, responsible product design and profitability can coexist with responsible environmental stewardship. Balance is the key.

Designing for energy and resource conservation

- Product development and design at Zero Zone follows a formal methodology that balances energy efficiency and resource conservation with optimal product function, quality, reliability, and operating cost.
- As a result, Zero Zone display cases and systems rank highly with customers who are concerned about reducing energy consumption, but want a quality product that will give them an excellent return on their investment.
- To achieve this balance, Zero Zone engineers merge their expertise with input from installers, contractors and end-users to determine product specifications that allow for high performance and minimal environmental impact.
- This collaborative approach is a fundamental component of our **Corporate Mission: *To Exceed Customer Expectations through Innovation, Responsiveness & Quality.***



Responsible production, committed employees

- Zero Zone production processes include the exclusive use of waterborne paints, reducing volatile organic compounds (VOCs) by as much as 80%, compared to solvent-based paints. Our paints contain zero hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) and zero isocyanates. In addition, dried waterborne paint is considered non-hazardous waste and can be safely disposed of in landfills, whereas solvent-based paints cannot.
- Our production facilities and office areas are lit with energy-efficient fluorescent lighting. Compared to metal halide lighting, fluorescents cut energy use by as much as 50%.
- Our aggressive waste reduction and recycling program goes beyond mere paper, cardboard, plastic and metal recycling and includes returning pallets and packaging materials to our suppliers for reuse.
- In our products, 70% of cold rolled steel and 25% of galvanized steel is made from recycled materials. The aluminum we use is made from 90% recycled material.



Evolution...the next step toward perfection

- The Zero Zone Evolution brand extends to all of our display cases, systems and associated products and is the result of a program of continuous improvement.
- We aggressively search out new ways to decrease resource usage, while improving energy efficiency and lessening environmental impact.
- In the process, amazingly, we have been able to increase the strength and durability of our structural components, without additional cost to us or our customers.
- This evolutionary approach to our products justifies our brand tagline: ***Evolution...the next step toward perfection.***



Zero Zone products promote sustainability...

Reach-In Cases

Low Temp
Frozen Food & Ice Cream



- For nearly half a century, Zero Zone has been a leader in producing energy-efficient glass door merchandisers for frozen foods and ice cream.

- Zero Zone Reach-In freezers feature the industry's most efficient coil and shorter defrost times, lowering customers' energy costs.

- In addition to those energy savings, the frozen food aisles are as much as 16° warmer with our door cases rather than open cases.

- That means shoppers are not only more comfortable, but HVAC energy costs are also reduced significantly.

- Reducing energy usage in the retail food industry decreases pollution caused by energy generation and is simply good for the planet.

Reach-In Cases

Medium Temp
Dairy, Deli & Beverages



- Switching from open cases to glass door cases for dairy, deli and beverages can save as much as 57% on energy costs per cubic foot of capacity.

- Like their freezer counterparts, medium temp door cases also keep the aisle temperature at comfortable store levels, not the frigid environment that is inherent with open display cases.

- Medium temp door cases outperform open cases in capacity as well.

- Retailers can stock up to 3.8% more product in the case and have 7.3% more product visible to shoppers, reducing restocking frequency.

- Providing improved merchandising with decreased energy usage and lower operating costs is a win for retailers and for the environment.

Hybrid™ Cases

Efficient Mobile Units
Leak Resistant



- With the capacity of a supermarket case and the flexibility of a self-contained case, Zero Zone Hybrid™ Reach-Ins offer convenience, dollar, and drug stores an energy saving, efficient refrigeration alternative.

- The top-mounted modular refrigeration unit on the Hybrid™ is pre-wired and is easily field installed.

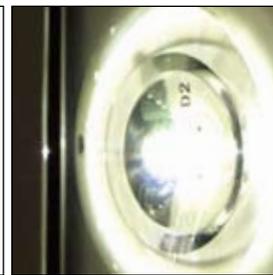
- The system is pre-charged at the factory and does not require brazing or evacuation, decreasing the possibility of refrigerant leaks.

- The reduced-charge system also runs more efficiently with fewer Btus and watts, saving energy and lowering operating costs.

- The Hybrid™ offers refrigeration without complication.

Lighting & Fans

Increased Efficiency
Lower Energy Cost



- LED lighting systems use up to 65% less energy than fluorescent lamps and are available on all Zero Zone cases.

- LEDs love the cold and have a useful life that is 5 to 7 times longer than T8 fluorescents.

- PSC fan motors, standard on Zero Zone cases, use 40% to 60% less energy than the shaded pole motors that are standard on competitors' cases.

- Providing even greater benefits, Zero Zone high efficiency SSC fan motors offer an additional 33% **direct** energy reduction. This results in a savings of 8,600 kWh annually for a typical 100 door store...with further **indirect** energy savings of 4,200 kWh annually, resulting from the reduced refrigeration load.

Thicker Insulation

2½ Inch Foam
Best R-Value in Industry



- Our 2½ inch foam insulation offers 17% more insulating R-value than the competition.

- This better limits exterior heat infiltration while reducing the cooling load on the evaporator coil.

- The end result is a more energy-efficient case that does a superior job of maintaining constant product temperatures.

- The thicker foam insulation in Zero Zone cases is another example of our longstanding commitment to decreasing energy usage and operating costs for our customers, while safeguarding their investment in the products they display in our cases.

Zero Zone is committed to practicing sustainable manufacturing processes and to offering products that are energy-efficient, reliable, durable, easy to install, and easy to maintain. In the process our customers enjoy an excellent return on their investment and lowered operating costs.

This has been our business strategy for nearly a half century. Today, we continue that approach to business with renewed vigor and an increased sense of urgency, realizing that now is the time for quick, decisive action.

As a good corporate citizen, we embrace our responsibility to foster sustainable business practices for ourselves and our extensive customer base. All of us, working together, can and will make a difference.

Glycol Cooling

Eco-Friendly Cases & Systems



- For many years, Zero Zone has been providing glycol secondary loop systems for ice arenas and industrial process cooling applications.
- We now provide that same alternative refrigeration technology to the retail food industry in both cases and systems.
- In keeping with our charter as a member of the GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership, Zero Zone continues to explore alternative refrigeration technologies that reduce harmful emissions, decrease maintenance and refrigerant costs, and improve energy performance for our customers.

Custom Systems

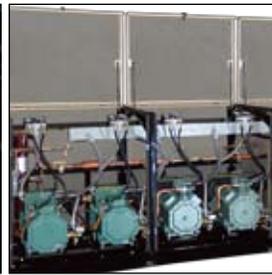
1,000 Point Inspection Quality & Endurance



- Top notch quality, energy-saving features, leak prevention, ease of installation and maintenance, and legendary durability.
- These are the results of the focused efforts of Zero Zone professionals as they design and assemble the industry benchmark in custom refrigeration systems.
- Whether cooling Zero Zone cases for food retailers or chilling the skating surface at municipal ice arenas, Zero Zone refrigeration systems are the product of extensive inspection, testing and quality control.
- The resulting system integrity and durability allow for more responsible resource management and substantial waste reduction.

Edge™ Systems

Use Less Refrigerant Less Leak Potential



- The Zero Zone Edge™ Distributed System represents an advance for the distributed system concept, a refrigeration alternative that has gained a strong foothold in the industry over the last few years.
- Compared to traditional rack systems, distributed systems use less refrigerant, less copper piping, fewer braze joints, are easier to install, and typically use less energy.
- Even more critical is their ability to reduce the potential for catastrophic refrigerant leaks. Combining all these features with higher horsepower, greater accessibility and application flexibility, Zero Zone raises distributed system technology to the cutting edge.

Resource Control

Refrigerant Management Tracking & Prevention



- The EPA estimates that the average traditional refrigeration rack leaks 450 pounds of refrigerant annually. That is equivalent to the annual CO₂ emissions of 122 cars.
- The patented Zero Zone Refrigerant Management System helps avert that environmental damage by monitoring refrigerant levels 24/7/365, alerting when leaks are present, recording refrigerant charge data and providing leak repair verification.
- The Zero Zone Refrigerant Management System detects refrigerant leaks in their beginning stages, enabling end-users to stop leaks **before** they can have a major negative impact on the environment.

Resource Control

Oil Management Equipment Protection



- 90% of compressor mechanical failures are due to excess oil entering the compressor. The patented Zero Zone Oil Management System prevents that by controlling and rerouting excess oil **before** it can damage compressors.
- Implementation of this system is not only fiscally responsible, it is environmentally responsible as well. By reducing natural resource usage and decreasing potentially harmful emissions, customers take a big step toward planet-friendly sustainability.

Cool Products...Cool People...Cool Ideas

Our people are cool

They know how important sustainability is to the company and the world.

Not only do they practice sustainability, but they also do it safely. For the last three years, our Wisconsin facility has had **zero lost days due to injury**.

We are proud of that record. And, by the way, overall efficiency increased during that same period.

Our products are cool

Our products remove heat...so your *Rocky Road* stays frozen solid, your dairy products stay consistently below 41°F, and your beverages are frosty cold.

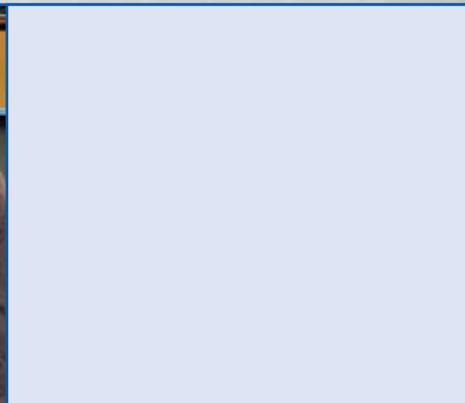
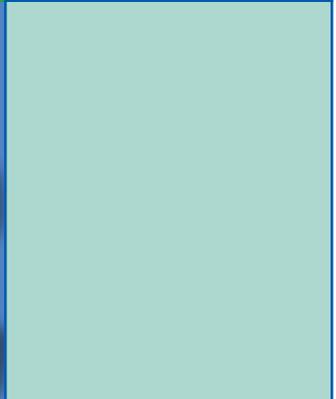
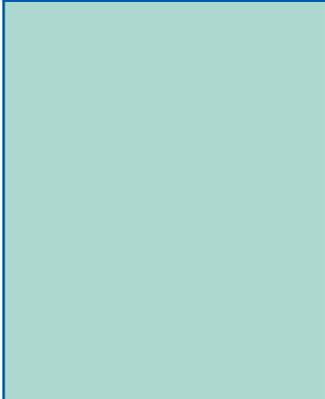
Our products instill confidence...assuring customers they are making a wise choice--financially **and** environmentally.

Our ideas are cool

We really believe we can make a difference.

With that mindset we continue to generate some pretty cool ideas about how we can take our sustainability initiative to even higher levels.

The future is going to be very exciting.



Collaboration

Collaboration is infectious.

As we work toward sustainability with vendors, contractors, installers and end-users, the synergy that results is amazing.

Small successes breed larger ones.

And environmental gains result.

Partnership

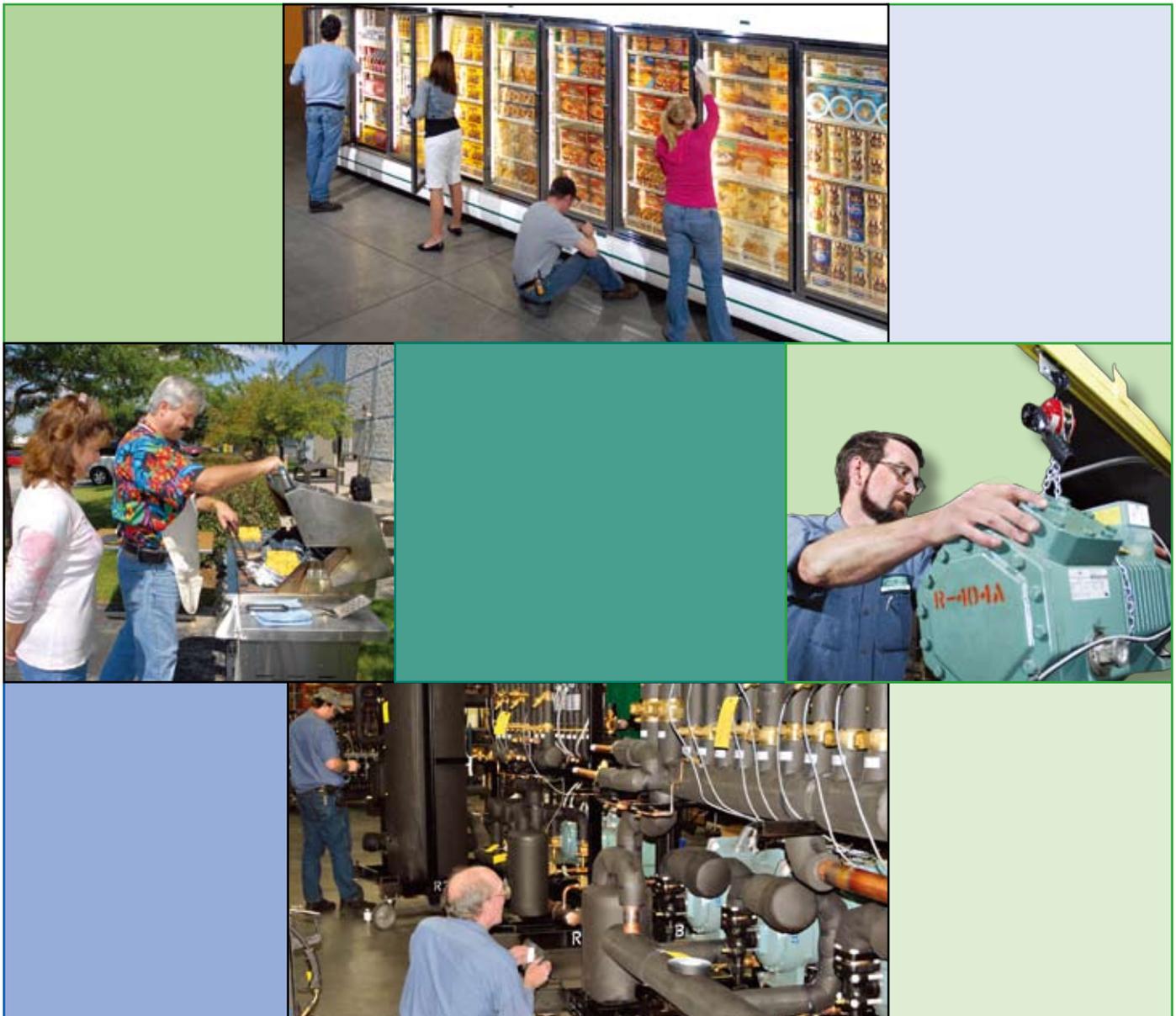
The GreenChill Advanced Refrigeration Partnership promises to take our collaborative efforts even farther, creating allies of competitors and customers—all united for the common goal of reversing environmental damage and restoring the earth to a sustainable condition for all generations to come.

Results

Early results are promising. But there is much to be done:

- *Making safe refrigerants*
- *Designing leak free refrigeration systems*
- *Reducing waste*
- *Eliminating harmful emissions*

The future depends on what we do today.



Zero Zone is proud to be a
GreenChill Partner

