

# EQUIPMENT & SYSTEMS PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION PROGRAM

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### General FAQs

#### ***What is retro-commissioning or tuning and why is it important?***

Over time building and process equipment can fall “out of tune” with the needs of building occupants, leading your equipment to not perform as efficiently as it could. Retro-commissioning (RCx) helps you save energy and money by matching building equipment and industrial processes to your current needs. Equipment and systems are “tuned” to optimal performance, and operations and maintenance procedures are reaffirmed. This process has many benefits, including reduced energy consumption, prolonged system life, increased occupant comfort and increased production output. Retro-commissioning can take place at many levels in a building – a single piece of equipment, a production line, a building system, or the whole building, and the Equipment & Performance Optimization Program provides retro-commissioning services at all of these levels.

#### ***What is monitoring based commissioning and why is it useful?***

Monitoring based commissioning enables constant management of energy consumption for a single piece of equipment, a production line, a building system, or the whole building. These software systems allow ongoing, real-time monitoring and active recommissioning of equipment/systems to ensure savings are consistently being captured based on improved controls and tracking. Such software systems allow facility operators to identify a problem as soon as it happens and take corrective action sooner. As part of this Program, Customers will regularly report achieved savings to their Program Administrator in order to qualify for Pay for Performance incentives once accepted applications are reviewed.

### Programmatic FAQs

#### ***What if the retro-commissioning process identifies additional capital measures?***

In the course of retro-commissioning a building, additional capital projects may be identified as possible candidates for investigation. Projects which will further decrease your energy consumption will likely also qualify for Mass Save incentives through other programs and combining capital projects with retro-commissioning activities will likely shorten the payback period. Your Program Administrator will discuss these opportunities with you.

#### ***Who do I contact for guidance?***

Please contact either your electric or natural gas provider for more information on how to participate. If you are not sure where to begin, please email [ESPO-Program@eversource.com](mailto:ESPO-Program@eversource.com).



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### *How do the Tracks differ from each other?*

The Equipment and Performance Optimization Program has multiple Tracks to enable any commercial or industrial facility to participate based on their energy savings goals and ideal level of engagement. The offerings range from isolated measures (Low Cost Tuning Measures), to specific systems (Targeted Systems Tuning), to comprehensive whole building or production facility controls investigations & tune-ups (Whole Building & Process Tuning). Monitoring Based Commissioning is a separate offering which can improve the persistence of your energy savings, among other benefits, and can be implemented at the measure, system or full building level.

## Equipment & Systems Performance Optimization Program

*Retrofit opportunities for RCx, O+M & Low Cost Tuning Measures for...*



**Low Cost Tuning Measures:**  
Pick from list of select measures



**Targeted Systems Tuning:**  
Prioritize individual, high potential systems



**Whole Building & Process Tuning:**  
Holistically review entire building or process



**Monitoring Based Commissioning:**  
Continuously monitor equipment or systems for abnormalities & take corrective action

The best way to differentiate the Tracks is based on how much equipment is being investigated and corrected. This determines the level of commitment as well as the expected energy savings and incentives.

For example, say you want to improve the performance of your refrigeration system. If you don't have much time or resources, you can just choose a few individual measures in the Low Lost Tuning Measures Track, such as anti-sweat controls or evaporator fan cycling.

If you want to look at more than just a couple of measures, you can choose the Targeted Systems Tuning Track to have your entire refrigeration system optimized.



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Or, if you want to take a comprehensive approach, you can choose the Whole Building & Process Tuning Track and optimize not just your refrigeration system, but all of the systems in your commercial building or production facility.

Monitoring Based Commissioning can complement any of these Tracks to ensure that you maintain your energy savings and while also pursuing incentives.

Your Program Administrator will help you determine which Track suits you best and can help explain differences in the pathways based on your unique situation. Please reach out!

#### ***Which Track is right for my facility?***

You don't have to decide on your own! Your Program Administrator will be happy to guide you through the screening process and to the proper Track. Please contact your Program Administrator to start the conversation. You can consider the following to help frame the discussion:

If your facility has only a few selected measures that would be beneficial to implement, the Low Cost Measures Track is probably the best option. If your facility has multiple measures within the same system, the Targeted Systems Tuning approach is likely the best. If your facility is a large consumer of electricity (>5 MWh annual consumption) and could benefit from a comprehensive reassessment of its controls and operations, Whole Building & Process Tuning should be explored.

If you have or want to pursue real time continuous energy monitoring, then Monitoring Based Commissioning is likely a good fit for you.

In any case, please review the Applications for additional information and contact your Program Administrator or [ESPO-Program@eversource.com](mailto:ESPO-Program@eversource.com) in order to start the discussion.



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***What sort of financial support is offered for each Track?***

	Low Cost Tuning Measures	Targeted Systems Tuning	Whole Building & Process Tuning	Monitoring Based Commissioning
<b>Tuning Investigation*</b>	N/A	Est. Value Up To \$12,000	Est. Value Up To \$30,000	N/A
<b>Electric - Base</b>	Per Measure *	\$0.17/kWh		\$0.17/kWh
<b>Electric – Bonus**</b>	N/A	\$0.03/kWh		N/A
<b>Gas - Base</b>	Per Measure*	\$1.20/Therm		\$1.20/Therm
<b>Gas – Bonus**</b>	N/A	\$0.20/Therm		N/A
<i>*Incentive metrics are provided on a per measure basis but will roughly be \$0.14/kWh and \$1.00/Therm saved for approved energy savings.</i>				
<i>**An additional Performance Incentive may be available to Customers who can show an annualized savings relative to total facility usage of at least 2.75% for electric and 1.5% for gas.</i>				

Please see the ESPO Program Applications for more detailed information.

#### ***How do I qualify?***

As with any Mass Save Program for commercial and industrial (C&I) Customers, participants in this Program must be an eligible electric and/or natural gas Customer of a Program Administrator and pay into the system benefit charge (this excludes Customers purely in the generation business) and must be on a corresponding C&I rate structure.

To ensure your project qualifies for the Equipment & Systems Performance Optimization, the Customer or Customer’s Vendor must contact their electric or gas PA to request project screening approval prior to application submission.

#### ***How do I participate?***

Please review the applications and contact your Program Administrator or [ESPO-Program@eversource.com](mailto:ESPO-Program@eversource.com) - we will be happy to guide you through the process.

