

Electronically commutated motors (ECM) offer a simple, cost-effective upgrade for fan coil units in HVAC applications, as well as for evaporator fans in refrigerated display cases, walk-in coolers and freezers. ECMs save energy by reducing friction in the motor with permanent magnet technology and integrated speed control. This enables ECMs to achieve overall efficiencies of 60% or greater, compared to 25% efficiency with conventional motors.

## ELECTRONICALLY COMMUTATED MOTORS

ECMs can save 75% of fan energy consumption in fan coil units, while improving air quality, reducing noise and maintenance costs.

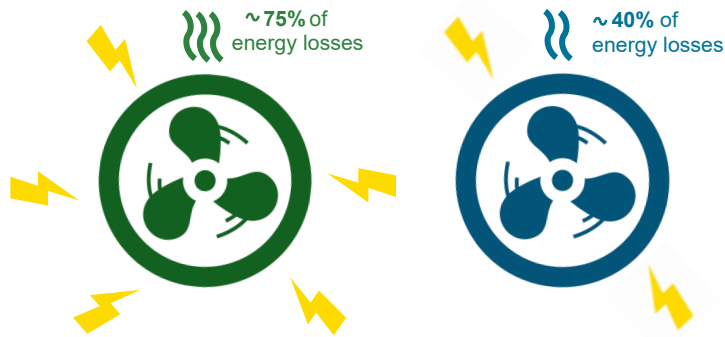
- ✓ Improved ventilation and air quality.
- ✓ Quieter than a standard fan motor.
- ✓ Reduced electricity consumption and demand during peak periods.
- ✓ Longer lifetime than a standard fan motor.

### Sources:

Energy Smart Grocer, *ECMs: Keep Cool While Cutting Your Operating Costs*, <https://energysmartgrocer.org/ca/documents/PG&E-ESG-Factsheet-ECM-final.pdf>

TakeCharge ECM Motors, <https://takechargenl.ca/business/product-rebates/electrically-commutated-motors/>

Case study source: CIET-TdS Dixon, 2021



Replacing a conventional motor with a new ECM saves energy through reduced motor friction and heat losses, as well as integrated speed control that matches the motor speed to the system load.

### Case Study: Municipal Building

An Ontario regional municipality replaced all of the fan coil units in its administration building with high-efficiency fan coil units that have ECMs. Based on data from the manufacturer, this simple retrofit project expects to reduce fan coil unit energy consumption by 70% to 80%, and to reduce peak demand by 80 to 100 W per fan coil unit.