

March 22, 2018

Cimco Refrigeration Winnipeg, MB Attn: Dave Balamatowski

Project Background:

The Town of Carberry and Municipality of North Cypress-Langford and the Carberry and Area Parks and Recreation Board decided on the need to replace our ice plant in the fall of 2016.

We had replaced our former ammonia plant in 2010, with a "state of the art, green, energy efficient" Freon cube system. This did not turn out to be as good as it seemed. Our energy consumption immediately increased by 61%. Over the course of 7 seasons, this cube system cost our facility approximately \$90000 in repairs and maintenance, gave us no option to have 2 different temperatures in our curling and arena ice, and was unreliable.

We hired a project manager, and began the process of issuing an RFP for replacement of the plant. We evaluated 3 proposals, and we decided to go with Cimco Refrigeration, as they were the most cost friendly, and offered the solution we were looking for.

The Relationship:

A year prior to issuing the RFP, we had explored options for a solution to our issues, and were met with many challenges. We had everything from re-designing our existing, to installing a complete skid unit on site. This was a very large cost, and not feasible for us.

We then met with Dave Balamatowski, when we issued the RFP. He visited our complex, and from the beginning was very open to our suggestions, and began to take note on exactly what we wanted, and exactly what we needed. Throughout the bid process, the communication lines were very open, and he made sure we got what we wanted and needed.

The Build:

Once we decided to go with the Cimco proposal, we initiated the project, and away we went. Our experience with Ron, Ken, and crew, as well as Attique in engineering, was very positive. We had very open communication, suggestions were met with open minds, and if Ken thought something wasn't going to work, he made changes as he went along. We did the demolition of the old plant ourselves, and then they began construction in June. Things went along very well, and everything remained on schedule. We had a drop-dead date to be completed, and we finished on schedule.



The Result:

When we started our new plant, there were only a few minor issues that came up. Some small computer glitches, and a couple of minor mechanical issues. As far as I am concerned, the start-up was seamless.

The addition of the Belimo valve to allow us to have our curling ice at a desired temperature, and the arena ice at a different temperature, works very well. The idea was built in to our old plant, but didn't work. We were skeptical, but Dave assured us it would work. It has been fantastic, the compliments we get on both the curling and skating ice tell the true story. It also allows us to tweak curling temps to promote curl, etc.

The 6000E control system has also worked very well. We can adjust many different settings, control the system remotely, and have a snapshot of the plant operations all from one screen. It allows different levels of access, depending on the operator, and we had them build in a check in feature, which allows us to have the staff use it as a check-in for working alone.

The schedule feature has allowed us to use setbacks for our ice temperatures. We let our arena warm up anywhere from 2-3f, and this has allowed us to increase our efficiency by an average of 28% over the course of our first season. The 6000E should be an addition to any plant, new or old.

Conclusion:

Overall, we have been extremely happy with all of our dealings with Dave and the Cimco crew. From the initial interviews, to the proposal, to design, all the way to commissioning, things were seamless. Any time we have needed service, day, night, or weekend, someone is always available. The remote access allows a lot of trouble shooting before a mechanic leaves Winnipeg. Dave regularly checks in on us, and we are exploring other options for energy efficiency for other parts of our building. The 6000 allows us to expand, and further decrease our energy consumption.

I would recommend the 6000E, Dave, and the entire Cimco Winnipeg team to anyone exploring the idea of a new, or renovated, ice plant.

Sincerely,

Grady Stephenson
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