

# ENERGYWISE

for your Home



**Did you know that upgrading your furnace motor can help you save on your electric bill? While your furnace might use fossil fuel to generate heat, it uses electricity to power the fans and motors that distribute air throughout your home during both the heating and cooling seasons. SWCE wants to help you save money by helping you use less electricity to keep your home comfortable.**

## ECM REBATE—KEEP YOUR HOME COMFORTABLE WITH LESS MONEY

### How do you benefit?

Electrically commutated motors (ECMs) help save energy and money by running at the best speed opposed to traditional motors that always run at top speed. Because your furnace fan distributes air in your home during both the heating and cooling season, an ECM helps save money throughout the year. Inefficient fan motors are common in existing HVAC systems. These motors can cost you as much as 60 percent more in unnecessary and avoidable energy costs (motor energy costs, not fuel costs).

### What is an electronically commutated motor (ECM)?

An ECM is a brushless DEC motor. The motor adjusts its speed to ensure optimal airflow at all times. In addition ECM motors are significantly quieter and less expensive to operate than conventional furnace fans.

ECMs use significantly less electricity to deliver the warm air from the furnace and the cool air from the HVAC throughout your home. With their adjustable speed design, furnaces with an ECM motor operate with as little as 80 watts of electricity. That's as much as ten times less than standard fan motors which run on high all the time.

Furnaces equipped with an ECM have lower annual operating costs and can save you \$40 to \$300 per year depending on how you use the furnace fan. Some homeowners choose to run their fan continuously to help even out warm and cold spots in their home or to provide extra air filtration which may be valued due to health concerns. ECMs provide:

- More reliability and longer equipment life
- Improved air distribution
- Less risk of the motor overheating
- More power while maintaining performance

### Rebate available

- SWCE's residential members are eligible for a \$100 rebate for ECMs installed in SWCE's service territory. Rebates are available to members who purchase a new furnace with an ECM or upgrade to an ECM in an existing furnace.
- What you need to do:
  1. You must be a member of SWCE to be eligible.
  2. Check with SWCE to verify funding, program parameters and product qualification.

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3. Complete the ECM rebate application on the bottom of this sheet and include proof-of-purchase.
- Installation must be complete before rebate will be issued
  - Itemized invoices from equipment vendors must accompany rebate application
  - Invoices must itemize labor charges, quantity and price of the equipment installed
  - Invoices must include manufacturer and model numbers for the installed equipment
  - SWCE reserves the right to conduct inspections

## More ideas for reducing heating and cooling bills

- Install a programmable thermostat
- Sign up for an EnergyWise® off-peak program such as Cycled Air Conditioning®
- Install a heat pump or high-efficiency air conditioner
- Change your furnace filters monthly
- Have your air conditioner or air-source heat pump tuned up with help from a SWCE rebate

## CONTACT US

To save energy and money, call SWCE at: 507-451-7340

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## MEMBER INFORMATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Address where ECM is installed \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Member Type     Homeowner     Renter     Landlord     Builder     Other

## EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

Manufacturer \_\_\_\_\_ Model Number \_\_\_\_\_

AHRI Number \_\_\_\_\_ Horsepower Rating \_\_\_\_\_

New furnace with ECM

New ECM only (in existing furnace) – Check box below that applies:

Replaces standard motor

Replaces defective ECM

Contractor Name \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

- Rebates are available only for the purchase of a new furnace or replacement motor purchased on or after January 1 of the program year.
- Rebate submittal must follow the guidelines as listed above.
- The ECM must be installed where electricity is supplied by SWCE.
- Rebate program is subject to change or cancellation without notice.

- SWCE is not responsible for inaccurate information supplied by HVAC contractor or installer.
- Call SWCE to verify rebate program status.
- For questions, call SWCE at 507-451-7340

Source for statistics: [http://www.mnpower.com/powerofone/one\\_home/hvac/furnace/index.htm](http://www.mnpower.com/powerofone/one_home/hvac/furnace/index.htm)