

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Success Story



Customer

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Project

- Pipe insulation
- Kiln upgrade
- New burner with linkageless controls
- Steam trap replacements
- Boiler tune-ups
- Pottery oven

Project results

21 completed projects

Energy savings

413,870 therms

Rebate amount

\$439,621

Customer background

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) has educated artists, designers and scholars since 1866. The school offers accredited undergraduate, graduate and post-baccalaureate programs to students from around the world.

"There were no hiccups at all with the project, and working with the program team was wonderful. The relationship the team built with our facilities staff will allow for even more collaboration on future energy efficiency projects."

— Quang Tran,
Executive Director of Facilities Engineering, SAIC

Project description

The School of the Art Institute of Chicago enlisted the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team to help identify opportunities to improve energy efficiency across campus facilities while supporting the operational needs of its classroom and student studio buildings. Working closely with facility staff, the program team helped evaluate and implement projects designed to reduce natural gas consumption, improve equipment performance, and support long-term sustainability goals.

Over the course of 21 energy efficiency projects, SAIC implemented a variety of upgrades throughout the campus, including pipe insulation improvements, kiln upgrades, new burners with linkageless controls, steam trap replacements, boiler tune-ups, and pottery oven improvements.

These projects focused on optimizing heating systems, reducing energy waste, and improving the efficiency of critical building and studio operations.

The success of the initial HVAC and burner optimization efforts encouraged the school to continue pursuing additional energy-saving opportunities across multiple campus facilities. By combining equipment upgrades with operational improvements, SAIC was able to develop a broader strategy for long-term energy management and facility performance.

Impact

"The Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team played a key role in helping us determine the best energy efficiency projects for our facilities and needs," said Quang Tran, executive director of facilities engineering at SAIC.

Through collaboration with the Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program, SAIC successfully completed 21 energy efficiency projects that now generate annual savings of more than 413,000 therms and over \$439,000 in total savings.

Tran continued, "All the consultants and engineers said we made the right decision to move forward with the burner retrofit project. It's great how much energy savings we are going to see with the retrofits."

The Peoples Gas Energy Efficiency Program team is available to help you capture similar savings. Call 855-849-8928 today to schedule a facility assessment with one of our energy experts.



**Talk to an Energy Efficiency
Expert at 855-849-8928.**

