

**Smart Ideas for Your Business: Small Business Program** 

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## Today's Agenda

- Program Background
- Small Business Program Elements
  - Free Direct Mail CFL Intro Kit
  - Mini-Catalog
  - Website Dedicated to Small Business Segment
- First-year Results
- Reaching Small Businesses





## **Program Background**

- Filed as one-year program to encourage small C&I customers to participate in energy efficiency measures
  - Unique program offering not found in other utility EE programs
- CFLs mailed directly to customers though business reply card
- Targeted customers under 10 KW
  - ComEd has approximately 130,000 C&I customers < 10kW</li>
  - Monthly electric bills are \$100-\$300
  - Owner and Facility Manager are the same person
  - Types of businesses are small offices (real estate, insurance, legal, medical, dental) and small retail (hairdressers, auto, food, misc...)
- Goal- 100,000 CFLs
- Savings-16,816 mWh
- Budget \$761k





## **Program Expanded**

- Offered four kit options for three free CFLs
  - 14 watt or 23 watt spiral CFLs
  - 15 watt or 23 watt Reflector R30 CFLs
  - Savings of \$40-\$80 per year depending on wattage selection
- Created a print and online catalog of EE products to be mailed with kits and given to customers (direct mail and special events)
  - CFLs
  - ENERGY STAR qualified LED Lighting
  - Other non-incentivized products (ventilation fans, pre-rinse sprayers)
- Created Special Website for Small Business Customers
  - Small Business Energy Analyzer
  - Link to online catalog and PDF of print version





# **Direct Mail Results**





#### Mail in CFL Cards

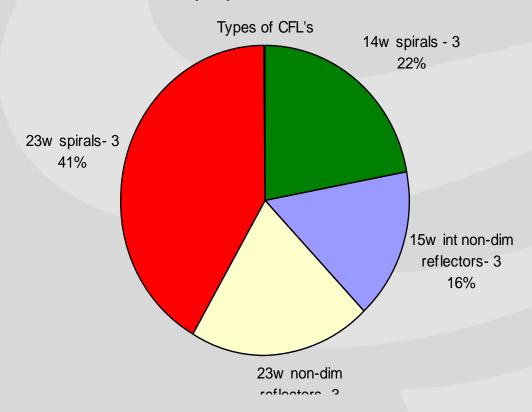
- About a 25% response rate
  - Typical direct mail response rates are around 1-3%
- About 36,000 kits ordered
- Cards sent to all C&I customers under 10KW
  - About 130k customers
- Spanish explanation





### Types CFL kits ordered

Spiral CFLs were the most popular choice...







#### The Kits







## **Loading the Trucks**







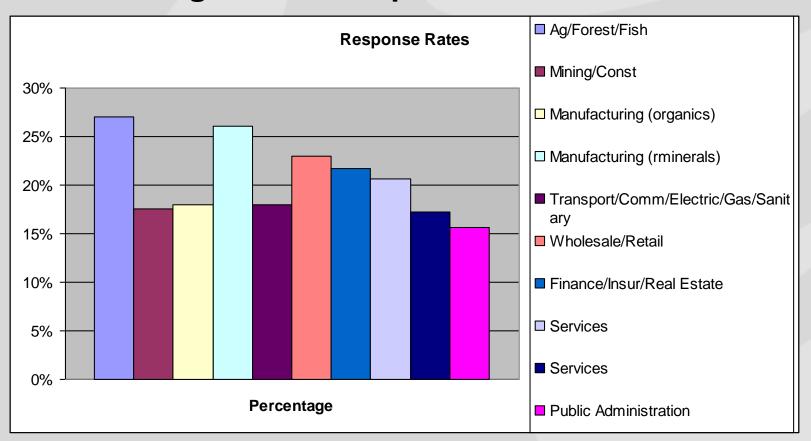
#### Three semi-truck loads of CFLs







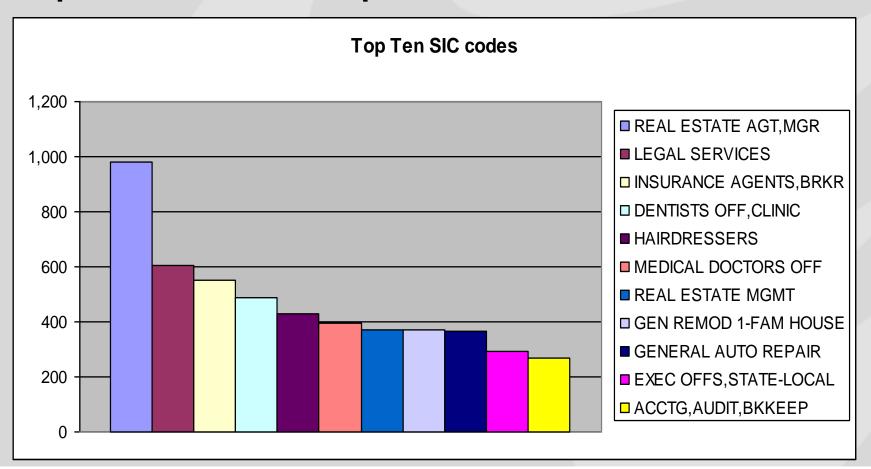
#### **Customer Segment Participation**







#### Top 10 - number of responses







# **Mini-Catalog Portion**





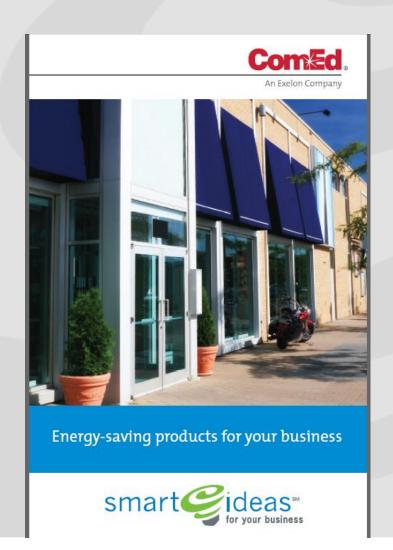
#### **Mini Catalog**

- Incentives applied to products directly (buy-down)
- Non-incentivised products also available
  - Gas measures
  - Lighting (Touchiers)
- Sixteen pages, dozens products available
- Free shipping on orders over \$150
- Educational tips and points of interest





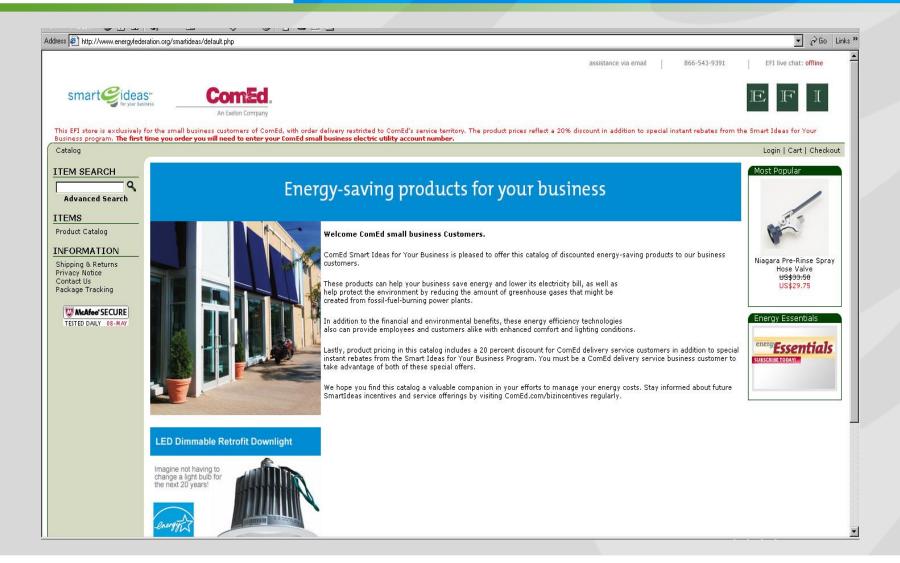
#### **Printed Version**







#### **Online Version**



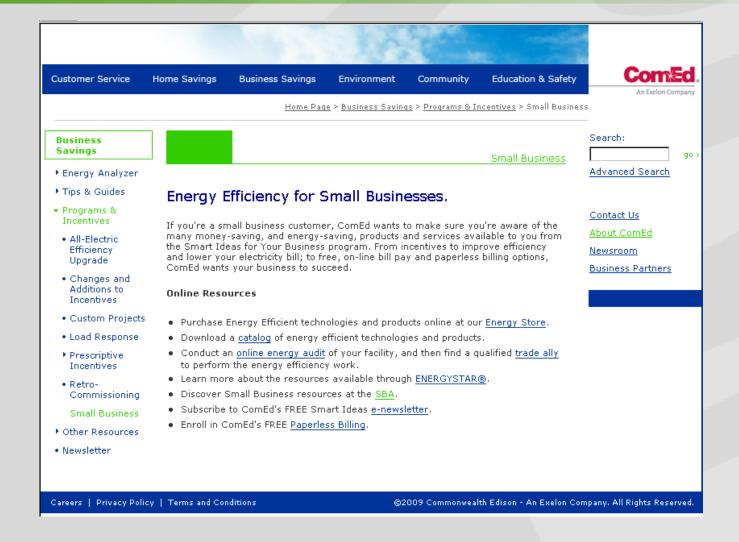




## **Website for Small Businesses**











#### www.comed.com/smallbiz

- Web portal to offerings targeted at small businesses
  - PDF catalog
  - Online Store
  - Online Energy Audit
  - Link to ENERGY STAR small business page
  - Link to U.S. Small Business Administration
  - Paperless Billing
  - E-newsletter





## **Reaching Small Businesses**





## **Considerations of small business**

- Small businesses have unique barriers
  - Contractors would rather work on larger projects
  - Business owner/manager has many different concerns
    - Energy not a big priority
  - Up front cost is a major barrier





#### **Possible Future Program Offerings**

- Direct install programs
  - Contractors install EE measures at customer sites on behalf of program
  - No cost (or very minimal cost) to customers
  - Convenient for customers
  - Examples: Southern California Edison, NSTAR
- Bonus programs
  - Offer incentives for larger percentage of project cost
- Utilize community based organizations
  - Partner with organizations that local business community is already working with:
    - Economic development groups
    - Special interest





Thank you!

