

# Schwank Case Study

Schwank efficiently heats 30,000 square feet of space from 50 feet high for TEC with primoSchwank heaters



"The Schwank heating system keeps our customer's employees warm in the cold Chicago winters. The TruTemp Thermostats can be set at 50° F and the warehouse employees can walk around with short sleeve shirts on. They are extremely happy with the performance of the Schwank heating system in their facility."

**Frank Mungo Jr.**  
V.P. Communications  
TEC, Lansing, IL

## Facility:

- 300,000 sq. ft. steel manufacturing plant with 30,000 sq. ft. to be heated



## About The Facility

Temperature Equipment Corporation [TEC] purchased an old steel manufacturing plant approximately 20 years ago that included over 300,000 square feet of unheated space. The building was about 40 years old and was insulated adequately, but not well.

TEC decided to lease out approximately 30,000 square feet of the building to a manufacturer of gear assemblies for wind turbines for storage. The space was 200' x 150' x 50' with no supporting columns which made it a very difficult application to install an efficient heating system that would keep people comfortable throughout the entire year.

## The Issue

The space included an old direct fired heating unit that was in front of a dock door. The system basically provided the door with heat when it opened and provided the space with heat when it needed it.

The unit had been repaired many times and finally needed to be replaced. A decision needed to be made to either replace the unit with another direct fired unit or try a different heating technology. At this time, TEC had just acquired the rights to sell Schwank equipment and discovered that infrared heating could be a better replacement to avoid the issues they previously had with the direct fired units and heat the space more efficiently.



**USA**  
**Schwank USA Inc.**  
2 Schwank Way  
Waynesboro, GA 30830  
Tel.: 1-877-446-3727  
Email: [csr@schwankgroup.com](mailto:csr@schwankgroup.com)  
Web: [www.schwankgroup.com](http://www.schwankgroup.com)

**Canada**  
**Schwank Ltd.**  
5285 Bradco Blvd.  
Mississauga, ON, L4W 2A6  
Tel.: 1-877-446-3727  
Email: [csr@schwankgroup.com](mailto:csr@schwankgroup.com)  
Web: [www.schwankgroup.com](http://www.schwankgroup.com)

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## Products used to heat TEC's building:



primoSchwank



TruTemp Thermostat



## Implementation

Initially, TEC priced out a direct fired heating unit in order to replace the old unit. At the same time, they decided to contact Schwank to complete a heat loss, design and recommend several options for the application.

Since the building was 50 feet high with no internal supports, Schwank recommended a high intensity infrared radiant heating system as the perfect solution. This would allow them to effectively heat only the space required from 50 feet high. TEC made the decision to go with the more efficient and reliable infrared heating technology. As a result 14 primoSchwank heaters and 2 TruTemp thermostats were installed.

## Results

TEC had informed Schwank that because they were the owners of the building and they did not need the entire building heated and that energy efficiency was a very important factor in their decision making.

A payback study was completed using the operating costs of the heaters provided by Schwank. The results showed that the payback for the primoSchwank heaters was only 2.7 years. TEC was able to pay off the entire cost of the heaters in less than 3 years and heat 30,000 square feet of space. TEC's customer is extremely happy with the performance and increased comfort that the primoSchwank units provide.



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2 Schwank Way  
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Web: [www.schwankgroup.com](http://www.schwankgroup.com)

**Canada**  
**Schwank Ltd.**  
5285 Bradco Blvd.  
Mississauga, ON, L4W 2A6  
Tel.: 1-877-446-3727  
Email: [csr@schwankgroup.com](mailto:csr@schwankgroup.com)  
Web: [www.schwankgroup.com](http://www.schwankgroup.com)