



Frequently Asked Questions About the VendingMiser

Question: *What is VendingMiser?*

VendingMiser employs revolutionary, patent-pending technology that allows it to simply plug in between a vending machine's power plug and the wall outlet. Vending-Miser will invisibly save nearly 50% of the \$200 to \$400 in annual electricity costs that the machine consumes. In addition, it will reduce the maintenance costs of the vending machine by reducing by a factor of four to six the number of compressor cycles run, and increase the life of the front panel fluorescent lamps.

Question: *How Does VendingMiser Accomplish This?*

VendingMiser uses three different technologies to intelligently manage the power to a vending machine. VendingMiser will completely power down the vending machine when the area around the vending machine is unoccupied, yet maintain the desired product temperature.

- Using state-of-the-art electronics, VendingMiser is able to automatically determine whether or not the compressor of the vending machine is operating. Therefore, VendingMiser will never short cycle the compressor.
- The VendingMiser uses a custom occupancy sensor to determine if there is anyone within 40 feet of the machine. VendingMiser waits for 15 minutes of vacancy and then completely powers off the vending machine. If the compressor is running, power down is delayed until the cycle-in-process is completed.
- Once powered off, VendingMiser will monitor the room's temperature, and based on this measurement will automatically re-power the vending machine in 1.5 to 3.0 hours. VendingMiser allows the vending machine to run a complete cooling cycle, and then power it down again.
- If a customer approaches the vending machine while powered down, VendingMiser will sense the person's presence and power up immediately.

Question: *Have The Vending Machine Manufacturers Tested The VendingMiser?*

Dixie-Narco (a manufacturer of machines) has tested VendingMiser and duplicated the manufacturers findings. Major bottler headquarters have also tested the VendingMiser and have given approval for their installation.

Question: *Does VendingMiser Have Any Impact On Product Temperature?*

Dixie-Narco documented that the vended product temperature did not get warmer with VendingMiser controlling the machine. USA Technology's own tests have shown no significant

temperature change. Additionally, not one installation has had complaints about product temperature, some at locations with very picky customers.

Question: *Have Other Independent Third Parties Tested VendingMiser?*

Dozens of documented tests have been performed by independent third parties, generating savings ranging from a low of 24% to a high of 76%. Letters documenting these are available from USA Technology. A third party testing laboratory called Foster Miller has also tested VendingMiser and has given it high marks in product quality and savings performance. A copy of this report is available from our web site.

Question: *Will VendingMiser Hurt My Vending Machine?*

VendingMiser will not damage your vending machine. Quite the contrary, it will extend its life and reduce its maintenance costs (see next question).

Question: *What Will VendingMiser Do To The Vending Machine's Maintenance Costs?*

VendingMiser will reduce overall vending machine maintenance costs. How? The compressor typically cycles three to four times per hour, running each time for about ten to fifteen minutes. So in a two-hour period, a compressor will run through as many as eight short duration cycles. While the vending machine area is occupied, Vending-Miser leaves the vending machine powered and the compressor will operate in this same fashion. However, when the area around the machine is vacant, VendingMiser will typically cycle the compressor only once every two hours for a longer cycle, usually about 20 – 30 minutes in length. This will extend the life of the compressor, allowing it to run fewer and longer cycles.

In addition, the replacement frequency of the fluorescent lamps will be reduced. While it is true that power cycling fluorescent lamps will shorten their life, the hours that the machine is powered down greatly exceeds this reduction in burn hours. The net effect is that the lamps will need replacement less often.

Question: *How Does VendingMiser Affect Machine Sales?*

Sales will certainly not decrease with VendingMiser controlling the machine. Whenever a person can see the machine, it will be powered on just as it normally would be. Since product temperature is maintained, customers will not even know that a VendingMiser has been installed on the vending machine.

However, sales actually can increase with a VendingMiser! As a potential customer approaches a vending machine that was powered down, the VendingMiser sensor will sense the person and “Pop” on the machine and its lights, thereby attracting attention. This attraction may possibly increase sales by drawing attention to the machine.

Question: *Is Using VendingMiser Preferable To De-Lamping?*

Absolutely! De-lamping of vending machines has been demanded by some customers as a way to cut their operating costs. However, most operators contacted have indicated that de-lamping nearly always has a negative impact on machine sales. Not so with VendingMiser!

VendingMiser will also save more energy than just de-lamping alone. However, VendingMiser can certainly be used on a de-lamped vending machine, as the compressor life extension and energy savings will still accrue.

Question: *How Difficult Is It To Install VendingMiser?*

Installing VendingMiser is very simple. It is a plug-and-play device – no settings or adjustments are needed, and the vending machine is not touched. Simply unplug the vending machine and plug it into the control box, and then plug the control box back into the wall outlet. Mount the unit using the supplied Velcro or an available metal mounting bracket. Mount the occupancy sensor above the machine with two screws, plug it into the control unit, and you are done! Installation takes only a few minutes. Vending-Miser is self-testing, and has a green LED that will immediately tell you the status of the unit.

For very fast and simple installations, check out the “EZ Install” bracket models.

Question: *What Happens if VendingMiser Fails?*

VendingMiser is one of USA Technology’s extensive Miser product line, a twelve-year-old family of similar products with over 400,000 units installed in the field at Fortune 500 customers, schools, colleges and universities and the hospitality industry. Our nearly perfect field record allows us to provide a five-year, no quibble warranty on the VendingMiser.

In addition, the VendingMiser is designed to be fail-safe. Should any component in the sensor or the control unit fail, the system is designed to leave the vending machine powered on, so there will be no impact on sales.

Question: *Are There Any Applications That Are Not Suitable for VendingMiser?*

Yes. VendingMiser is not designed to be used on vending machines containing perishable goods. Finally, VendingMiser’s savings mode assumes that its location is not occupied around the clock so that it can in fact power the machine down. Therefore, an example of an application that would probably not produce any significant benefits would be in a 24-hour convenience store.

Question: *How About Vandalism?*

VendingMiser has an available steel bracket to permanently attach the control unit behind the vending machine. Additionally, a wire cage is available for protecting the sensor. Note that if the vending machine is already located inside a cage, the VendingMiser would also be protected in this enclosure.

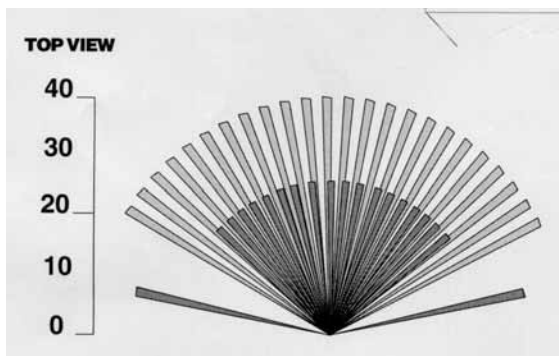
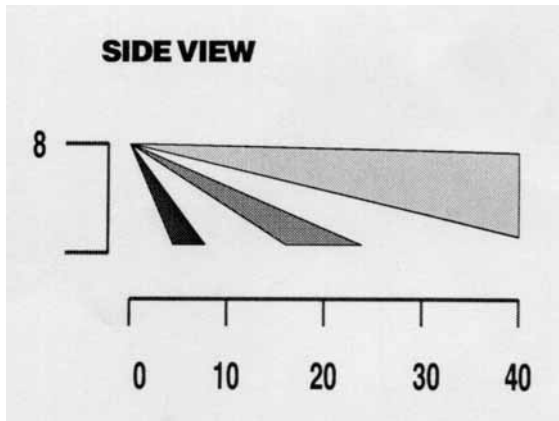
Question: *Is VendingMiser UL or CSA approved?*

Yes, VendingMiser is UL/c approved (USA and Canada). VendingMiser and all Miser products come with a Five year warranty.

Frequently Asked VendingMiser Questions

Question: *What is the field of view of the sensor?*

The sensor has a very good field of view to ensure the machine is on when people need it. See the pictures below for the field of view information (in feet).



Question: *How can I try one out and prove it to myself?*

Contact Optimum Energy Products Ltd. for one of our "Test Drive Kits" that include a VendingMiser and one of our plug load meters to measure energy use before and after installation of the VendingMiser.

Visit www.VendingMiserStore.com or call us Toll Free at 877-766-5412



