

# Twinn Transmission curbs its heating costs by almost \$1,000 a month



## Reliable upgrades. Powerful savings.



**Project description:**

Rebates for infrared heaters, furnace, water heater and programmable thermostat



**energySMART incentives:**

\$4,900



**Energy savings:**

1,963 therms saved per year

Twinn Transmission is a transmission rebuilding and auto repair shop in Franklin Park, Ill. Open since 1979, the shop is family owned and operated by twin brothers who are dedicated to providing customers the complete automotive experience at competitive prices.

However, even with business going so well, co-owner John Cartina realized his shop's operating budget was a different story. John found they were spending as much as \$1,300 a month on energy costs alone. After months of paying excessive energy bills, John realized that the shop's heating system needed an upgrade. That's when energySMART, a Nicor Gas program, came in to help.



## The project

Soon after moving their shop to a more spacious location to accommodate their growing business, the Cartina twins found they had an inefficient heating system. Not only did that require excessive use of energy, it made the workspace uncomfortable. Heating the new 6,000 square foot, high-ceiling warehouse caused significant costs during severe winter months. When John and his brother learned about energySMART rebates and offerings, they quickly tapped into an easy way to make energy-efficient upgrades and lower their energy bills each month. Twinn Transmission solved their inefficiency dilemma by installing infrared heaters, a high-efficiency water heater, furnace and programmable thermostat.



## How Twinn Transmission made it happen

John Cartina learned about energySMART rebates through a bill insert in one of his monthly Nicor Gas energy bills. Wanting to learn more about energy and money-saving opportunities, John visited [nicorgasrebates.com](http://nicorgasrebates.com). He was directed to a representative who explained the rebates and application process. "The entire experience was simple and the help from my representative made it easy to understand," John said. John's contractor improved the shop's inefficiencies with radiant heating. With only three people working in the shop, installing infrared heaters in spot-specific locations was an ideal energy-saving solution.

**"Knowing that we save money every month really takes the pressure off."**

— John Cartina, Owner,  
Twinn Transmission

## The experience

Twinn Transmission has seen a dramatic difference in their energy costs. Before energySMART upgrades were installed, winter energy bills fluctuated between \$700 and \$1,300. With the efficient heaters in place, they save almost \$1,000 a month and pay no more than \$325 for their monthly gas bill. Employees no longer endure extreme weather temperatures and cold air leaks. John and his brother can take comfort in knowing that their staff is comfortable, and that their heating units are reliable when they need them.

John and his twin brother now use their energy bill savings on improving other parts of the business. Most recently, they purchased new tools for the shop, and used additional savings to help pay for insurance and other operational expenses. Along with providing financial stability and increased comfort, the energy efficiency improvements reduced the shop's energy use by close to 2,000 therms per year."

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