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### **AutoZone, Family Dollar, and Others Save Millions and Go Green With Surveyor Energy Management System From Venstar Inc.**

CHATSWORTH, Calif., September 14, 2010 — Venstar®, a leading thermostat and energy management systems supplier, today announced the launch of the Surveyor® Energy Management System (EMS). Designed for small-box retail chains, Surveyor is installed in more than 12,000 locations throughout North America, including AutoZone, Family Dollar, and other retail stores. With Surveyor, these and other retail chains are each saving millions annually in energy costs — with CO<sub>2</sub> reductions equivalent to taking tens of thousands of cars off the road — and realizing a rapid return on investment (ROI).

“Using Surveyor, Family Dollar has reduced its energy usage by an average of 22 percent per store, saving millions of dollars annually. Family Dollar has also realized a return on its investment in just 18 months,” said Marilyn M. Morse, vice president of facilities management for Family Dollar. “It’s not just about cost savings. Being a green company is very important to us, too. Surveyor helps us make informed energy decisions that make a positive environmental impact.” Based in Matthews, N.C., Family Dollar has more than 6,700 stores in 44 states, all of which are equipped with Surveyor.

“Surveyor gives users unprecedented visibility into energy usage at their stores via its Internet-based application that can easily be managed by a single person for a chain’s entire portfolio of stores, whether in the office or on the go,” said Steve Dushane, president and CEO of Venstar Inc. “Surveyor users typically save 25 percent on their energy use, resulting in the savings of millions of dollars in energy usage.”

Surveyor empowers small-box retailers and other multi-location businesses to remotely monitor, control and manage their HVAC and lighting/electrical and mechanical systems in all their stores, giving them unprecedented visibility into their energy usage. Designed specifically for small-box retail chains with hundreds to thousands of locations, Surveyor provides powerful energy management tools for energy and facility managers responsible for managing multi-location companies.

## **A Single Person Can Remotely Control Energy Usage for Thousands of Stores**

While Surveyor can accommodate hundreds of users, just a single person can utilize Surveyor to effectively control the HVAC, lighting/electrical, and mechanical equipment at thousands of locations. Using a desktop computer, laptop or any telephone, the user has immediate access to Surveyor from virtually anywhere there is cellular or WiFi coverage. With this access, users can monitor environmental conditions and system performance for their entire portfolios of stores.

With Surveyor, authorized users can make changes to the system via the Internet at the touch of a button. Users can make global changes, changes by state or region, or changes to individual stores. This allows users the ability to adjust HVAC, lighting/electrical and mechanical systems to meet specific store or regional requirements, resulting in dramatic energy cost savings.

## **Automatic and On-Demand Changes to HVAC, Lighting/Electrical and Mechanical Systems**

Surveyor can automatically adjust HVAC, lighting/electrical and mechanical systems to accommodate day-to-day store schedules. Users can also make adjustments on demand to handle last-minute schedule changes, such as extra hours, unusual maintenance or inventories. Surveyor allows multiple pre-set schedules to accommodate regular store hours, cleaning/maintenance crew hours and deliveries. This secure access and control empowers users to program optimal store temperatures and lighting, resulting in energy savings and added comfort for the customers and employees.

## **Custom, Standard and Exception Reporting Provides Increased Business Intelligence**

Custom, standard and exception reporting, along with real-time live views into stores, gives users increased business intelligence about their stores' HVAC, lighting/electrical and mechanical systems. Extensive data mining, diagnostics, and analysis empower users to manage their stores by a variety of criteria, including weather conditions. Surveyor can also send out automatic customized email reports that allow designated executives and regional managers to know the energy usage and condition of the equipment at their stores.

With Surveyor, users can easily run exception reports to identify any stores that are unusually warm or cool inside. This can indicate problem areas, including malfunctioning or broken equipment. By being able to proactively service and repair equipment, facilities managers are able to reduce maintenance costs while ensuring a minimum of down time.

## **Secure Access by User-Defined Security Levels**

Surveyor's built-in user-defined security levels provide effective company-wide access to the system without compromising security. Users can be allowed access based on a wide variety of criteria, such as read-only, restricted access (such as to a specific region), or full access. Access can also be granted based on titles or employee designations. Access is configurable for each company based on their unique needs. Multiple users can access specific store information at the same time.

Surveyor can also be an effective tool for the security team, as it can alert them if lights are unexpectedly turned on at any given store location, giving them the opportunity to investigate in real time.

### **Surveyor Can Be Configured to Meet Each Chain's Unique Needs**

Surveyor's designed-in flexibility affords the system administration the ability to configure the system to each chain's unique needs. Configurable data includes security levels, access, ability to sort stores by a variety of criteria, specific needs of facilities or energy managers, and much more.

### **How Surveyor Works**

Each piece of the user's energy-consuming equipment has sensors installed that communicate to the user's Surveyor system via the Internet. The sensors can be added to virtually any manufacturer's equipment, allowing users to retrofit their existing equipment without buying new equipment. Some of the biggest manufacturers in HVAC, including Carrier and York, have Surveyor controls available as a factory-installed option. For added flexibility for mobile users, the Surveyor iPhone® application provides users the ability to monitor and control the Surveyor system on the go.

### **Availability**

Venstar sells its Surveyor Energy Management System direct to its customers. For more information, visit: [www.venstar.com/surveyor](http://www.venstar.com/surveyor). Email: [sales@venstar.com](mailto:sales@venstar.com)

### **About Venstar Inc.**

Founded in 1992, Venstar Inc. is a leading thermostat and energy management system (EMS) supplier, known for providing value to its customers via ease of use and installation, proven cost savings, improved energy efficiency, quality and reliability. Venstar's Surveyor is a leading energy management system, typically saving small-box retailers 25percent of their energy costs, which translates to millions of dollars in savings and dramatic reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Surveyor currently controls the energy usage of more than 12,000 retail locations across the United States, Mexico, and Canada. Venstar is also one of the largest thermostat suppliers in the world and designs and produces Venstar-branded products, as well

as OEM thermostat products for the biggest names in HVAC, including Amana, Carrier, Goodman, Johnson Controls and York.

Web site: [www.venstar.com](http://www.venstar.com).

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