Vacation Destination
Nantucket – No Walk in the Park on an Island:

Conducting Residential Metering and Site Visits on Nantucket Island

August 11, 2015
The Challenge: Nantucket Island

- 30 miles off New England coast; ~ 48 square miles
- Population of 11,000 (year round) swells to 50,000 to 60,000 during summer
- 2 existing electric cables
- Study to assess peak demand potential through energy efficiency
- How to plan, recruit, conduct site visits, and remotely monitor 70 residential homes
Summer Scheduling

Challenge 1  Recruiting mostly vacation rental homes

- Nantucket Energy Office posted study notices on website and provided list of rental owners and property managers on island
- Name dropping Nantucket Energy Office during recruitment was beneficial

Challenge 2  Restrictions and availability of ferry travel

- Booked ferry tickets far in advance (learned the hard way)
- Field staff were available for long days and weekends
- Schedulers offered approximate arrival windows instead of a fixed times

Challenge 3  Effective preparation

- Schedulers asked homeowners about availability of a wireless network and home characteristics
- Schedulers provided field staff with detailed notes in Outlook invitations (contact info., customer flexibility, equipment installation requirements, etc.)
Logistics

• Storage and easy access were important
• Local electrician assisted in this project and stored some equipment

• Next-day shipping via FedEx not available
• Packed plenty of spare parts and equipment
Remote Monitoring

- Essential that collected data could be accessed remotely
- Study included electrical panel loads (central air conditioners, electric water heaters, pool pumps, dryers, etc.) to various common plug loads (dehumidifiers, room air conditioners, televisions, set top boxes, etc.).
Wrap Up

Success was made possible by:

– Staff efficiency
– Strategic planning and recruitment
– Creative staffing and equipment logistics
– Local support and local name recognition
– Ability to monitor remotely
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