

## **Team 4**

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# 1. Geothermal System Costs:

The energy cost savings of geothermal systems is great, especially if oil, natural gas, and propane costs are high in your area. A complete system installation of a geothermal heat pump can cost \$10,000 - \$25,000 or more, depending on many different factors.

## 1.1 Conditions that Effect Installation Cost

- Length and depth of underground Pipes
- Soil conditions
- Other excavations and underground obstacles
- Two stage compressor
- Hot water heater connected to system
- New duct work

The unit should be installed by a licensed installer and then inspected by city and county. Licensing and permit costs will be included in complete system installation cost. You can also curve installation costs by applying for a federal tax credit or get monthly rebates for energy efficiency from your state. We at Team Geo have developed the following project plan to install geothermal systems at residential homes in the Houston, Texas area and we have all licenses and permits required by Houston and in Texas. We will have pre- fabricated systems to help with cost and by having these pre-fab systems we save homeowners 25-30% off the industry standard cost. We do this by being able to work on a majority of systems in our shop rather than in the field or on the job where fabrication can be timely and expensive.

## 1.2 Our Geothermal Systems

- 3 ton system for houses 1,500-1,850 Square feet can be installed for a cost of \$13,500 with all the bells and whistles.

- 4 ton system for houses 1,851-2,500 square feet will cost \$16,500 for installation and has everything necessary for a premium system.
- 5 ton system for houses 2,501-3,000 square feet will cost \$18,000 installed and is our second best system.
- 6 ton system for 3,001-5,000 square feet and will cost \$20,000 for complete installation.
- Houses over 5,000 square feet we will have to design a custom system.

## 2. Human Resources:

### 2.1 Vision

To inform and educate residential homeowners of the electrical cost savings related with the installation of residential geothermal heating and cooling pump systems.

### 2.2 Mission Statement

To provide Houstonians with another viable option for residential heating and cooling – the option to lower total energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> output.

### 2.3 Roles and Responsibilities

- Adam Boyce – CEO
  - Responsibilities – Team Leader, Decision Maker, Manager
- Elissa Stone – Chief Strategy Officer
  - Responsibilities – Internal Consultant, Coach, Strategist, Helps CEO with decision making/execution.
- Mark Greisen – Chief Technology Officer

- Responsibilities – Oversees technology side of the company, Manage and leads technicians.
- Duc Ta – Chief Operating Officer –
  - Responsibilities – Oversees daily operations within the company

## 2.4 Job Department/Assignments

- Sales – A salesperson is in charge of selling our product and getting our name out to the public.  
This job
- Office Job – This includes the accounting department, HR department, customer service department, IT department, manager department, and other in office jobs.
- Technicians – This title defines anyone who installs and oversees the construction of our product.
- Logistics/Warehouse – This department includes any warehouse workers, and any truck drivers.

## 2.5 Recruitment

- Salesperson - We are always open to hiring anyone with a sales experience. Any business or marketing degree will help improve the chances of getting hired.
- Office Job – Applications are open to anyone with a past experience of office work.
- Technicians - We are only hiring certified technicians to install the thermal heating pump.
- Logistics/Warehouse – Applications are open to anyone with experience in this field.

## 2.6 Orientation/Training

We have set up a program to help welcome new members of our team. The program consists of showing and training new members the day to day process of our company. New salespeople will be

giving a week's training to learn about our product and how to sell it. New manufacturing workers will be thoroughly train to make sure all manufacturing parts are up to standards.

## **2.7 Insurance**

Our company is contracted with Cigna Health Insurance. Insurance will offered to employees after 90 days of employment. Employees can choose from a variety of Cigna's health plan, including dental and vision.

## **2.8 Compensation**

- Salesperson has a base salary along with commission for each sale they make. This will incentivize them to make more sales.
- Office employees will a base salary.
- Technicians will have a base salary along with commission for each installation.
- Logistics/Warehouse workers will have a base salary.

## **2.9 Code of Ethics and Professional Standards**

Employees will be provided a code of ethics and professional standards handbook when they start. The HR department will review any claims of unethical behavior in the workplace.

## **2.10 Performance Review**

There will be a performance review of all employees every 6 months. This will help the company grow and look for any areas that needs improvement. Promotions and any raises will be based on the employee's performance review.

## 2.11 Disabilities

We adhere to “The American with Disability Act”. We are willing to hire and accommodate anyone with a disability.

## 3. Geothermal Materials:

Geothermal systems have many components that make a system work in synergy.

### 3.1 System Components

- Refrigerant substance that circulates through the heat pump alternating directions which absorbs warmth or cooling energy effectively releasing hot or cold air.
- Reversing valve to control flow direction of refrigerant in the system.
- Coil or loop tubing is necessary in the system and often has tubing with fins to increase surface area for heat exchange.
- Evaporator is a coil in which the refrigerant absorbs heat to be sent through the reverse valve to the accumulator which collects excess liquid that did not vaporize but a accumulator is not a necessity, it is more a luxury for efficiency.
- Compressor is necessary to squeeze molecules of refrigerant together increasing temperature of the refrigerant.
- Condenser where the refrigerant gives off its heat and goes back into a liquid.
- Expansion device which will release pressure created by the compressor. This will cause refrigerant temperature to drop and circulate back through the coil system.



## 4. Materials and components:

Geothermal systems have many components that make a system work in synergy. The system needs a refrigerant which is the substance that circulates through the heat pump alternating directions which absorbs warmth or cooling energy effectively

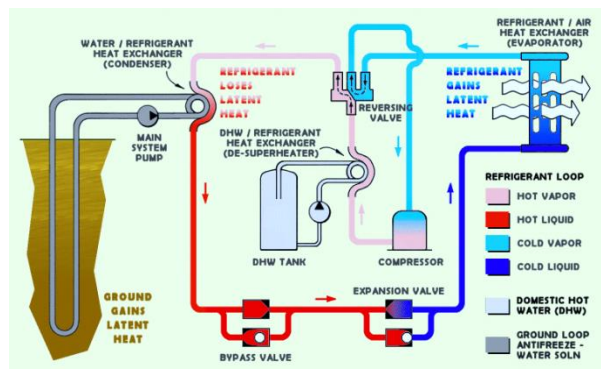
releasing hot or cold air. Every system needs a

reversing valve to control flow direction of

refrigerant in the system for cooling or heating. A

coil or a loop of tubing is necessary in the system to

extract heat or cold from the surrounding soil for



heat exchange. A evaporator is a coil in which the refrigerant absorbs heat to be sent through the

reverse valve to the accumulator which collects excess liquid that did not vaporize but a accumulator is

not a necessity more a luxury for efficiency. A compressor is necessary to squeeze molecules of

refrigerant together increasing pressure to make the refrigerant easier to liquefy. Next the compressed

refrigerant passes by the condenser where the refrigerant gives off its heat and goes back into a

liquid. Next you have an expansion valve, which will release pressure created by the compressor. This

will cause refrigerant liquid to vaporize and the temperature to drop and then circulate back through

the coil system. The plenum is an air compartment that will distribute hot or cool air around the

house. The plenum distributes using ductwork to vents in rooms in the house.

### 4.1 Three Key Components of the Heat Pump System:

#### 4.1.1 The Compressor:

The compressor is the engine of the heat pump system, it is what makes the

refrigeration liquid go around in the system. Furthermore it is the compressor



that makes the heat transportation possible by having a low- and high-pressure side.

#### 4.1.2 The Evaporator:

The evaporator is where the refrigeration liquid evaporates, taking the energy from the surrounds and cooling it down. The air that flows between the ribs of the evaporator is cooled as it passes.



#### 4.1.3 The Thermostatic Expansion Valve:

The thermostatic expansion valve is needed to maintain the pressure at the high-pressure side, if it was not, the system would simply not be able to transport the heat. The thermostatic expansion valve is also used to control the amount of refrigeration liquid going around the system. The pump "measures" how hot the evaporator is and if it is too hot it opens the valve and lets more refrigeration liquid pass by, which then cools the evaporator, and the thermostatic expansion valve also closes off as it gets cool.



## 5. Assembly:

Assembly at the site, the main unit is the geothermal heat pump, which basically consists of a compressor, two heat exchangers and an expansion valve. The first heat exchanger is connected to the site's heat/cooling system, and the other one is connected to the geothermal well.

Depending on the properties of the site, there are a couple of different ways to do this, to get the maximum cost effective geothermal well.

If the site is a house in midtown, the vertical closed loop would be preferred, because it takes up less space. The vertical closed loop is drilled 20' down by using u-bends the tubing will return up the same hole it was put into.

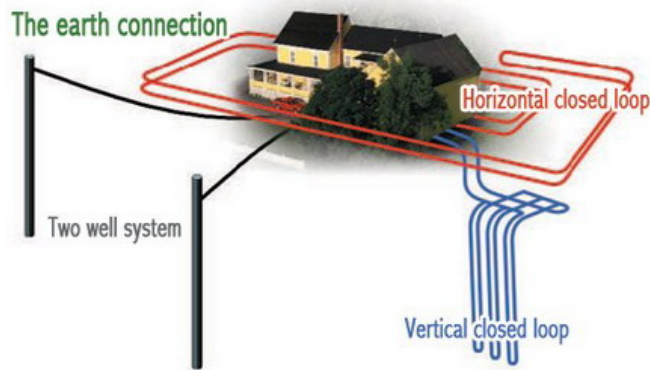


Figure 1 The three most common ways of installing heat pump wells.

But if the house is in the suburbs you may go

with the horizontal closed loop. This is dug 4' under the ground and takes up a lot more space than the horizontal one. Because this can be dug out with a normal excavator, it is the cheapest way to go.

The third option is to use an open well system; this requires high ground water level (to avoid the well to be very deep and costly) and very clean ground water. The water needs to be clean because it goes directly into the systems pumps and heat exchangers. But if the properties are right this is a very cost-effective way to go because only two wells are needed.

When the tube loops are dug down and the heat pump unit arrives it is ready to be plugged into the existing heating/cooling system at the site (presuming that that the site is water/air cool/heated).

It would approximately take two workmen (and an excavator or well driller) one day, to dig out the trenches for the tubing, lay the tubing and cover it up again. Furthermore a specialized plumber is needed to connect the heat pump unit and do the settings. This is approximately one more workday. This adds up to three workdays per installation (not counting sales and underground pretest if needed). To make this process as cost effective as possible it is in the company's and its costumers best interest to hire its own workers to make sure the installation will be done in three days, and does not have to wait for a subcontractor to



finish other jobs. This should lower the installation cost and make the costumers happier by lowering the construction time at their house.

## **6. Overall Sales/Marketing Plan:**

### **6.1 Overall Sales**

#### **6.1.1 Lower Operating Cost**

Geothermal delivers a 400% efficiency rating. 4 units of energy are delivered for every 1 unit of electrical energy. This does not bend the laws of physics; geothermal systems are transferring heat and cooling, not creating it such as electrical energy. A more efficient comfort system lowers the bill significantly, up to 70%.

#### **6.1.2 Quiet Operation**

Want to enjoy the backyard pool without talking over the noisy air conditioning unit located right next to your house? Unlike air conditioners, there is no outdoor unit next to or near the house. Geothermal units are very smooth, reliable, and quiet in operation as they are buried underground. The units are not subjected to wear and tear caused by snow, rain, ice, or heat from the sun, which can cause more and more operational noise over time.

#### **6.1.3 Environmental Impact**

Unlike other electrical systems, geothermal emits less carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, or other greenhouse gasses which contribute to air quality pollution. By utilizing a geothermal system, peak grid time for electrical usage is avoided. In addition, the U.S. Department of Energy recognizes geothermal systems as the most environmentally friendly way to heat and cool a home.

#### **6.1.4 Clean and Safe**

High indoor air quality can be achieved, as there is no combustion in geothermal heating and cooling pumps; therefore there is no chance of carbon monoxide poisoning.

#### **6.1.5 Life Cycle Cost**

Geothermal systems are usually good for 15 – 30 years. Electrical units average 7-10 years with regular maintenance. The ground loop of the geothermal system (the pipes buried in your yard) has a warranty of 50 years. The ground loop is made up of polypropylene pipe, the same pipe that is used in city gas lines.

#### **6.1.6 Positive Cash Flow**

Geothermal is an initial investment. This investment will yield a 30% government geothermal tax credit for utilizing a system that has a positive environmental impact. Geothermal will produce energy savings, which will equal and exceed the cost of the system installation over a period of time, typically in a 3-8 year period when taking advantage of the above tax credit.

#### **6.1.7 Our Target Market**

Our target market includes residential homeowners and homebuilders within Houston, Texas (phase one). Phase two; three, and four of our target markets include Dallas, San Antonio, and Austin.

#### **6.1.8 Our Pricing Structure**

The below factors are considered when issuing an official quote:

- Location
- Local Climate
- Building Characteristics
- Existing Comfort Systems

- Local Energy Prices
- Current Bills

On average, a typical home of 2500 square feet, with a heating load of 60,000 BTU (British Thermal Units) and a cooling load of 60,000 BTU will cost between \$20,000 to \$25,000 to install. This is around double the cost of a conventional heating, cooling, and a hot water system, but geothermal heating/cooling systems can reduce utility bills by 40% to 60%. Below are some of the factors we will use when issuing an official quote.

- Geothermal Installation Cost
- System Size
- Savings Over Time
- Monthly Loan Payments
- Payback Period
- Increase in Home Value

### 6.1.9 Our Short-Term and Long-Term Revenue Goals

Company/growth strategy has been built around the four main areas of financial statement analysis:

- Liquidity and efficiency
  - Solvency
  - Profitability
  - Market Prospects
- 
- Total Houston population in 2012: 2,160,821
    - 42.2% of the Houston population own homes (target market)

- $2,160,821 \times 42.2\% = 911,866$
  - Factor that of the 911,866 (number of home owners based on % of ownership) - a large number reside under one household (couples, families, kids, etc.)
  - Factoring in the above – potential target market is 401,000 owned residential households
- Average typical home of 2500 square feet will yield a \$15,000 profit margin (cost to customer is \$20,000, cost to company for parts/labor/install/advertising/etc. is \$5000, which yields a \$15,000 profit margin).

#### 6.1.10 Revenue Goals:

- \$500,000 (year 1) = 25 households installed
- \$780,000 (year 2) = 39 households installed
- \$1,220,124 (year 3) = 61 households installed
- \$2,201,456 (year 4) = 110 households installed
- \$2,603,146 (year 5) = 130 households installed

\*\*Please note the above revenue goals are based on gross revenue versus net income.

\*\*Please note we will operate at a loss year 1 and year 2 when incorporating overhead/salaries/etc. and will turn a profit (net income) year 3.

#### 6.2 Advertisement:

We will advertise on the following platforms:

Radio –

- We will create an ad that will target more energy conscious consumers. We will play this ad on local radio stations.

#### TV –

- We will create ads that will play during day time and prime time viewing. Ads during daytime will target any stay at home mom/dads that watching daytime talk shows. We will also target prime time shows for people who works during the day and watches TV when they get home. We will start with local channels, and then expand to nationwide.

#### Social Media –

- We will have a presence on Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube. This will help us be heard by new media users and also educate people about our product.
  - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/TeamGeo04>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/team.geo.5>
  - LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/pub/team-geo/85/799/7b0/](http://www.linkedin.com/pub/team-geo/85/799/7b0/)
  - YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/TeamGeo04>

#### Conventions/ Conferences –

- We will go to conventions/conferences and advertise our products.
  - The Renewable Energy World Conference & Expo North America 2013
  - GEA Geothermal Energy Expo and GRC Annual Meeting
  - Renewable Energy World Conference and Expo
  - Renewable Energy World North America 2012

#### Websites –



- We will have our own website to show that we are a legitimate business and is serious about our product. Our website will include who we are as a company, information about our product, customer support, and much more.
  - [www.teamgeo.com](http://www.teamgeo.com)

#### Magazines/Newspaper –

- We will create ads that target magazine that deals with construction, modern homes, and energy usages. We will also advertise on the newspaper.
  - Modern Home Magazine
  - Times Magazine
  - Houston Chronicles
  - Energy Magazine

## 6.3 SWOT Analysis

### 6.3.1 Strength

- Require little surface area once built.
- Reliable, Durable, Low Maintenance.
- Lower Operating Cost
- Clean and Safe
- Less Carbon Emission

### 6.3.2 Weakness

- High Initial installation cost
- Construction is disruptive to surrounding area

- Takes at least 3-8 years to see a positive cash flow.

### 6.3.3 Opportunities

- Adaptable to old and new buildings, large or small.
- Market's high interest in renewable resources.
- 30% Tax credit

### 6.3.4 Threats

- Other renewable resources.
- Other geothermal companies.
- Lack of information about the benefits of geothermal energy.
- Environmental Hazards.

## 7. Our Sales and Marketing Team Sales Goals:

- Hire 2 sales professionals and have them fully ramped up from a training perspective for the 2014 launch
- Out of the 298 zip codes in Houston, each sales person will be responsible for their own territory, which consists of about 149 zip codes each (full Houston market presence).
- Sales and marketing efforts by the sales professionals will consist of cold calling, face-to-face meetings, attending trade shows, and partnering with like-minded industry organizations
- Breakdown of daily/weekly/annual goals per each sales professional:
  - 25 calls a day, 125 calls a week
  - 2-3 new client visits a day, minimum of 12 new client visits a week
  - Annualized annual revenue goals per individual (2 total):

- \$500,000 (year 1) = 12.5 households sold and installed per sales professional
- \$780,000 (year 2) = 19.5 households sold and installed per sales professional
- \$1,220,124 (year 3) = 31 households sold and installed per sales professional
- \$2,201,456 (year 4) = 55 households sold and installed per sales professional
- \$2,603,146 (year 5) = 65 households sold and installed per sales professional

## 8. Logistics:

The Logistics for geothermal systems can be very complicated due to the amount of components that are necessary to complete a system.

### 8.1 The Two Most Common Methods to Supply Geothermal Jobs

1. Order parts and stockpile parts in warehouse for jobs to come.
2. Order job to job.

### 8.2 Should be Ordered in Bulk

- Pipes should be ordered in bulk because of the price break with large pipe orders.
- Refrigerant can also be bought in bulk and stockpiles because you will use the same refrigerant on all projects.

### 8.3 Should be Ordered Job to Job

- Compressors
- Condensers

Compressors and condensers are very particular for each house size so if you're a smaller company you will want to wait to buy both these parts because they are expensive and particular in size. For large

companies we would want to have a warehouse where a smaller company could use a storage unit or two to save on costs. All parts will be trucked to a warehouse or jobsite from USA manufacturers.

## **9. Proposed Development/Implementation:**

reasons why bank should grant start-up funding....

# Team's Interpersonal and Performance Dynamics

## Individual Perspective: Elissa Stone

Newly established teams often have to work hard at establishing team dynamics to cohesively function effectively together. In order to obtain this goal, we focused on communication, celebrating successes and appreciation for hard work, accountability, and sharing responsibility. From day one as a group, we focused on open honest communication. As a team, we did not always agree with one another or share the same perspective; we did however listen to each other's points and communicated respectfully. As mentioned above, one of our ground rules from day one of coming together was open, honest communication and we achieved this goal successfully by insuring that each person both received and understood each other's communication. We used e-mail only as a secondary follow-up to the face-to-face conversations. By utilizing e-mail as secondary communication, this served as a tool for each of us to reference back to for important dates and milestones due.

As a team, we have continually paused to celebrate success and appreciation for all of our hard work. For example, when we received a 100 on our Mid Semester Progress Report, we took a breath and reveled in our accomplishment. We complimented each other on all of our hard work to date. We began to cultivate a culture of appreciation. These types of celebrations for our small successes would help reward each of us and motivate us to work even harder!

In furthering our culture of appreciation, we also wanted to insure a culture of accountability. We wanted to build upon a principal of fairness in how the work was distributed. This decision was about building trust within our team through fairness and holding each other accountable for their portion of their commitments. In holding each other accountable, for example, if one team member missed a meeting, they would automatically know and ask what portion they could do to make up for

their absence. Very rarely though, did anyone miss an entire meeting and this was due to the culture of accountability we created from the start.

The last area we focused on in establishing our team dynamics was sharing responsibilities and learning when to delegate tasks in order to help further develop team member's skills. Although each of us had several strengths, for example, we discovered Mark had a knack for the table of contents whereas more than one of us would just manually type the table of contents. Duc's area of strength was to perfect the document in terms of overall presentation. Lastly, Adam's strengths were proved invaluable through his commitment, his contributions, and positive attitude all the way through. As a team we all shared the craving to contribute, which, has resulted in an excellent, well-organized, project plan.

## Individual Perspective: Adam Boyce

From the first day of class we as a group have gotten off to a good start and got along very well. We all choose as a team to select Elissa Stone as our team leader for the first half of this project. After the first half of the project Adam Boyce will be passed the leader torch around the first of November. Our other two group members are Mark Greisen and Duc Ta. Elissa was great in getting the team situated and informing us of exactly what our portion of the project that was delegated to each person. We decided as a team to meet before class for the first three weeks of class to meet for at least an hour. These meetings went very well and enabled us as a group to get a great start on the project. After the first three weeks we as a group decided we had a good start and that from then on we would meet 15 minutes before each class talk a little bit about the project to keep all team members in line. After our fourth week we were asked by Dr. Evans if we would accept a new group member so late in the project which we as a team agreed to allow. After a week without being contacted by our new team member when decided we decided as a group that it was too late to be coming into the group because we

started early on the project and did much of the work already done. Being that we supplied information on how new member should contact us as a group and no effort was made I believe our group made the correct decision. After this point our team flourished and we met as a team many times with delegation of all work going as smooth as possible. Our other source of communication for our team is through email and this system has worked very well to communicate all particulars on team project. As planned at the beginning of the project the leader responsibility was transferred to Adam Boyce. These last three weeks before project is due we have planned three two hour meetings each week to finalize the project.

## Individual Perspective: Duc Ta

Our first day as a team, we picked Elissa Stone as our leader and decided to change leader to Adam Boyce half way through the semester. We met a couple times for 2 hours to discuss our project and divide up the sections of the project. After we got comfortable with what we are going to do, we decided to try to meet at least 15 minutes before class to give each other our own progress report on what we have done so far, and if we need any help. The last few weeks of the project, we will be meeting 2 hours every time so we could combine all of our portions. From then we would edit and expand to any part that needed it. In our team, we get along very well, and are very respectful to each other's ideas. We work very well together on making decisions, such as whether to add a fifth member to our team four weeks into the project. Elissa's and Adam's leadership keeps us ahead of schedule and on top of our assignments. We have never had a problem with each other, and are respectful of each other's time. We would let others know if we will be late, or needed if we couldn't make it. We would try to move the meeting to a suitable time for everyone, and keep everyone up to speed of what is happening. In all, we have a strong team that is led by great leaders that pushes us to surpass expectations. I've never been in a team that was this focused and far ahead of schedule before. At the

beginning of the semester, we stated our goal and stuck to it; our goal was to work well together and get the best grade possible.

## Individual Perspective: Mark Greisen

This is one of the best teams I have been in; we had some problems in the beginning with getting the team collected, and to be a real team with a common goal. But during the project even this part succeeded. The success was not based on having the same opinion or just from carelessness, because we have had discussions from the smallest things as numbers in the report, to what the project actually was about. But every time the problems were solved, by being discussed open in the team. A lot of teams have different personal goals that will split the team, and put up obstacles for the common team goal. But here in this team even most of our personal goals were the same: making a good grade, get it done effectively and hopefully make a few friends in the process. And it worked, I have been in teams before where I made more enemies than friends, and that did not work very well for the common team goal, the report and general enthusiasm suffered. But we were not off to an easy start, we were missing a couple of team members, Duc showed up pretty fast, and did more than expected of him when we presented him with some work to make up for the lost time. But this was not the case with the fifth member; she didn't show up the first couple of times and did not respond to our emails or invitations to the team meeting. So after a while we decided to ditch her, even after we just meet (as a team) we were pretty fast at ganging up on her, and get her kicked off the team. It's a funny feeling when something happens and it is only after that you realize that this was exactly what we were told what was going to happen if new members were added we would resist, and in this case she could be seen as a new member because the rest of us had already bonded when she showed up. But it gave the team something to commonly dislike, maybe not the nicest thing to do, but effectively in bonding with our other teammates.



## Joint Team Member Perspective:

This project and our Team dynamic was a great experience for all of us. Working together as a group we all began to discover each team member strengths and weaknesses. Mark we found was great with working with computers, Elissa is an excellent leader and organizer, Duc is very strong digital design to make paper astatically pleasing and Adam is knowledgeable about heat pump system. From the first day of class when we were put into our group till the last weeks of class we all came together communicated like we had been working together for years. We all decided to meet up every week before class which gave us a great start to our team project. For the first three week we came together for two hours prior to class to meet about project and after three weeks we had a great head start to the project. We then decided to meet up for 15 minutes prior to every class to talk and answer any question about the project and what we were directed to do for the project. We were supposed to have a fifth member to our team and after three week we were notified that the new member would be joining us. We invited her to our next team meeting and she did not show up or email any team members so at that point we decided as a team that too much work had been completed and we would have to decline her acceptance to our team. After this decision we as a team flourished and our project was on pace to be great. After five week of meeting 15 minutes prior to class we decided as a team to meet prior to class for two hours to bring all of our portions of the paper together. We all decided at this point we would keep meeting two hours before class until the project was finished. Our team meetings and group work as a whole was a stupendous experience and we all cannot speak high enough of each other and the project that we as a team were able to put together. Our Team dynamic grew as time passed and we discovered how strong we as individuals became when combined with different people with different talents. We all believe that there would be no way that any one of us could have put this project together in the amount of time given. We as a team came together and produced a paper of such a quality that we are all proud and excited to turn in for grading.

## Conclusion:

Our initial vision for our team project when we came together as a group was to inform and educate residential homeowners of the electrical cost savings related with the installation of residential geothermal heating and cooling pump systems. The purpose and mission of our proposed development and implementation of the team's project was to provide Houstonians with another viable option for residential heating and cooling – the option to lower total energy consumption and Co2 output. In our initial plan and goals of working together, our number one objective was to help each other grow and develop from an academic, interpersonal, and task performance/business perspective. Most important to each of us though was to gain solid team leadership skills throughout the process. For example, flexibility was demonstrated by each team member throughout the process by being open to listening to others suggestions versus just seeing it through their myopic viewpoint. Each of us truly feels we gained tremendous insight in being open to the fact that each team member has significant strengths and unfortunately some weaknesses as well. We were able to overcome our weaknesses by taking advantage of each other's strengths. The result was getting the project done in a quicker shorter time period. There were very valuable suggestions made by each team member at various times which, resulted in a more thorough, well thought out plan development.

Perhaps the most valuable lesson we took away from this project was to strengthen others through increasing each other's self-determination, and fostering each other's self-confidence through believing in one another and strengthening each other's minds and talents. In addition, in order to ensure our successfully developed plan, our group applied the five project management process groups, which consist of initiating, planning, executing, monitoring/controlling, and closing. In closing, we are confident as a group that our hard work and determination will result in an A+!

**The meaning of TEAM. Together Everyone Achieves More!**

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