

### **CASE STUDY:**

WIRELESS PNEUMATIC THERMOSTAT (WPT)
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

# From Pneumatic to DDC in 20 Minutes!

#### **HEADQUARTERS**

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## **SITUATION:**

The County of Santa Clara needed to retrofit their buildings' pneumatic HVAC controls to save energy and participate in PG&E's Auto-Demand Response program

- Two five-story buildings built in the year 2000, totaling 300,000 square feet
- 350 non-communicating, non-programmable pneumatic thermostats
- Potential to achieve 200 kW of load shed by participating in PG&E's Auto-Demand Response program

**CHALLENGE AND SOLUTION:** 

**Traditional Direct Digital Control retrofits were** cost and time prohibitive for the County—the WPT enabled them to retrofit their buildings at 80% less cost in only eight days

|   | Best DDC<br>Quote | Actual WPT<br>Retrofit |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|
| Installed price                                 | \$875,000         | \$175,000              |
| Project time                                    | 6 months plus     | 8 days                 |
| Disruption of tenants and operations            | Significant       | Minimal                |
| Potential exposure to toxic substances in walls | Unknown           | None                   |
| Paid by PG&E Auto-<br>DR incentive program      | 31%               | 100%                   |

#### **Legacy Pneumatic** Thermostat







- Manual setpoint control
- Cannot support Auto-DR
- No remote readings
- No diagnostics
- Manual calibration
- Old technology
- Very unreliable

#### **Wireless Pneumatic Thermostat**

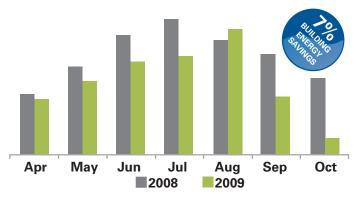


- Remote monitoring and control
- Enables Auto-DR strategies
- BACnet interface to BMS and compatible with legacy systems
- Diagnostics for continuous commissioning
- Automatic self-calibration

## RESULT

Through the first seven months of operations, the County achieved 7% average building energy savings with set-point strategies and continuous commissioning

Actual Year-Over-Year Energy Savings From WPT Retrofit



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Graph is based on actual PG&E billing data and reflects average kWh/day. The range shown is 15,000 to 20,897 kWh/day.

#### **Realized Benefits from WPT Retrofit**

\$205,500 annualized savings with 16-month payback (excluding PG&E incentive payment)

- Energy Savings: \$42,000 per year
- 350,000 kWh per year saved at \$0.12 per kWh
- Demand Response Savings: \$7,500 per year
- 10,700 kWh per year curtailed at a peak rate of \$0.70 per kWh
- Maintenance Cost Savings: \$156,000 per year
- Continuous commissioning data helped prioritize maintenance and reduce troubleshooting time resulting in cost savings of more than 50%

