Enterprise Information at your Fingertips with Tracer ES

Containing costs due to tighter budgets while also improving indoor air quality and facing increasing expectations for student performance are challenges schools face today. School superintendents, facility managers and building operators face demands from many fronts: faculty, students, parents, schools boards, communities and governments. Facility management issues can become majors concerns — especially as school buildings age — due to their impact on operational efficiency, energy and maintenance costs, and student and staff performance.

Tracer ES, the Trane® web-based building automation solution, can help schools overcome the complex management, operational and occupant comfort challenges of multiple-building operations.

Student performance challenges:

- Ensuring student comfort, health and performance are top priorities for schools, and studies show that student performance is impacted by acoustics and comfort conditions. However, as school buildings age or facilities are added or expanded, maintaining comfortable and healthy space conditions becomes increasingly complex and challenging.

- Maintaining optimal indoor air conditions, such as humidity, temperature and ventilation, can have a direct impact on student performance. This places even more importance on schools finding ways to most efficiently and effectively control building conditions, to create the best possible learning environment.

- Many school districts lack the systems to effectively monitor, control and track their environments in large schools or across a district with many facilities of varying sizes and ages.

Student performance solution:

Tracer ES can help organizations effectively and efficiently maintain comfortable, quality environments. Tracer ES will monitor and control temperature, humidity and carbon dioxide levels — within a single building or multiple school facilities — to detect variances before they affect comfort and indoor air quality. Tools such as industry-leading graphics, intuitive navigation and easyto-use dashboards help significantly reduce response time to address comfort issues across a school or district, to contribute to the success of both students and teachers.

Staff productivity challenges:

- Maintenance and operations departments are asked to do more with fewer employees as school budgets are tightened. Your staff may be spending significant time responding to service and maintenance calls — and they often have no way to know the severity of the issue when they're off-site or away from the building.

- School districts lack the tools to simplify the management of multiple large facilities. As a result, building managers and operators are forced to spend time dealing with varying building management systems that may operate quite differently in order to change a schedule, manage alarms or make lighting adjustments, for example.

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This issue is worsened when facilities are distributed throughout large properties or across geographic areas.

- A building automation system can provide a lot of valuable information about performance and ways to improve operational efficiency, but if the system is too difficult to understand and operate, it can be misused or underused by building personnel.

Staff productivity solution:

Tracer ES offers remote access via the Web and mobile devices, so your whole district can be effectively managed from nearly anywhere, at any time. Instead of running from building to building, just log in to view your entire operation and instantly see all of your building systems. Manage and respond to alarms, change setpoints and modify schedules with just a few clicks from a single access point — an efficient solution that eliminates much of the inefficient use of time that consumes facility management and building operators.

An easy-to-understand user interface makes navigation easy, with all the necessary information just a click away. Use this readily accessible information to easily make changes to a building system. And with Tracer ES, user preferences can be tailored to your specific needs for complete customization of the building management experience.

Operating cost challenges:

- Energy costs represent a significant operating expense and fluctuating costs make forecasting difficult. Schools must find a way to control energy consumption and develop energy reduction strategies.

- Many school districts have various systems controlling their buildings. This can make it difficult to integrate the systems or make upgrades to technology. Additionally, the use of proprietary systems means a district may be locked into a single vendor for system upgrades or changes.

- Purchasing, licensing and maintaining hardware, software and upgrades are a continuous drain on IT budgets and personnel.

Operating cost solution:

Tracer ES offers a single, open platform that allows integration and communication between multiple, existing systems like lighting, fire and security, no matter their age or brand. No more proprietary systems that don't play well with others, or that lock schools into their technology with expensive upgrades.

Tracer ES makes it easy to integrate, operate and maintain all your systems — even connecting your HVAC systems with other building controls — with a Web-based, scalable platform. With Tracer ES, you can manage all your schools as a single enterprise to help achieve greater energy savings and improve operational efficiencies.

The integration platform allows you to protect your existing infrastructure investment, while providing the flexibility and adaptability to positon you for future changes or expansion as your budget allows. Because Tracer ES resides on a central server, all of this can be done while using your existing IT infrastructure, saving you the cost of purchasing and maintaining multiple software and hardware platforms.

Powerful data comparison and analysis tools let you measure and compare building performance over time with custom reports, to help improve benchmarking and efficiency efforts.

The Trane solution:

Tracer ES is a powerful building management solution that gives schools an enterprise-wide view into all building control systems. The Tracer ES software can be accessed from any secure Internet connection, offering the ability to easily view, monitor and make changes to your school building systems from nearly any location.

The single user interface for multiple building systems allows you to connect diverse systems and equipment vintages — both Trane and non-Trane brands — so you can integrate existing equipment with new technologies and capabilities.

Facility management staff can use Tracer ES to remotely monitor and control energy management, lighting and HVAC systems, resulting in improved productivity and occupant comfort. Tracer ES can help reduce costs, improve efficiency and increase building performance in your school district.

To learn more, scan the code, visit Trane.com/TracerES or contact your local Trane account manager.