Enterprise Information at Your Fingertips with Tracer ES

Economic conditions and tighter budgets in the changing climate of today's healthcare market pose many operational challenges for healthcare organizations as they strive to meet shifting patient expectations and create competitive offerings. Ensuring patient comfort and meeting strict regulatory health and safety requirements remains paramount, but at the same time rising costs are requiring facility managers to find ways to reduce energy and maintenance expenditures.

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

Patient comfort and quality challenges:

- Ensuring patient comfort and health are top priorities for healthcare organizations. However, as enterprises expand to include multiple hospitals, specialty clinics and outpatient facilities, maintaining comfortable and healthy space conditions becomes increasingly more complex and challenging.

- Environmental factors such as air quality, temperature and ventilation have a major impact on infection control, patient and staff comfort, and the health of occupants. Healthcare organizations need a way to effectively monitor, control and track their facility environments on an enterprise level, for improved building environment.

Patient comfort and quality solution:

Tracer ES can help healthcare organizations effectively and efficiently maintain comfortable and quality environments. Tracer ES will monitor and control temperature, humidity and carbon dioxide levels — within a single building or multiple facilities — to detect variances before they affect comfort and indoor air quality or safety. Tools such as industry leading graphics, intuitive navigation and easy-to-use dashboards help significantly reduce response time to address occupant issues across a large enterprise. This can help greatly improve patient comfort and minimize complaints.

Operating cost challenges:

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

- Many healthcare organizations 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 an organization 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 you 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 healthcare facilities 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 can reside 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.

Staff productivity challenges:

• Maintenance, operations and engineering departments are asked to do more with fewer employees as operating 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.

• Many healthcare organizations lack the tools to simplify the management of multiple facilities with complex building systems. 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. 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.

• An uncomfortable environment — where spaces are too hot or too cold — can make it difficult to attract and retain skilled hospital staff. It can also affect staff performance, which can negatively impact patient care as a result.

Staff productivity solution:

Tracer ES offers remote access via the web and mobile devices, so your whole enterprise 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. You are no longer tied to a specific workstation to access and manage your building systems.

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.

The Trane solution:

Tracer ES is a powerful building management solution that gives healthcare organizations an enterprise-wide view into all building control systems — whether you operate two buildings or 22. The Tracer ES software can be accessed from any secure Internet connection, offering the ability to easily view, monitor and make changes to your 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 greater productivity and patient comfort. Tracer ES can help reduce costs, improve efficiency and increase building performance over your entire healthcare enterprise.

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

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