



While the University of Wisconsin-Marathon supports higher learning, it didn't want to keep supporting higher energy costs. Building upon the learning environment of the university, maintenance department officials attended a class at a Honeywell distributor that covered energy savings and the Honeywell ControlLinks™ Fuel Air Control System. The officials quickly understood the savings the university could gain by updating the controls on their very large boilers. Since the installation, the improved efficiency and performance have paid daily dividends.

Delivering Efficiency



Named for its location in Marathon County, the University of Wisconsin-Marathon is home to more than 1,300 students using a variety of campus buildings. The primary heating source for the campus — which experiences plenty of snowy and subzero Wisconsin weather — is a series of boilers. As Richard Abig, the university's Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds, explains, "The boilers all had linkages that were 15 to 20 years old and extremely inefficient. We needed to find a way to improve performance." The Honeywell ControlLinks™ Fuel Air Control System was the answer.

MODERNIZING ON A BUDGET



The easy — and extremely expensive — solution is to replace all the boilers with higher-efficiency models. But few, if any, universities have that much money laying around for capital investment. Instead, Abig worked with R CAD Refrigeration

Control & Design and the Honeywell distributor to maximize the efficiency of the existing systems.

"I liked that they first looked at our current energy usage and then used a Honeywell program to calculate the potential savings," explains Abig. "We were then able to take the numbers to the state government's Focus on Energy program. They saw the benefits of ControlLinks and gave us the installation funding."

ControlLinks puts an end to the inefficiencies of linkage systems by providing microprocessor-based fuel-air control. With ControlLinks, the fuel/air ratio to a burner can be adjusted independently, resulting in reduced fuel consumption that typically pays for the ControlLinks system within a year.

Learn More

For more information about the Honeywell ControlLinks Fuel Air Control System, contact your Honeywell representative, visit customer.honeywell.com or call 1-800-345-6770, ext. 423.

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"This was a complex installation," said Stan Gryns, the installer at R CAD Refrigeration Control & Design. "It featured very large boilers, mechanical fuel valve controls and other integration issues. But the ControlLinks offered adaptable control that we were able to integrate perfectly to achieve the performance efficiencies we were looking for."

BEYOND ENERGY SAVINGS

Naturally, the continued energy savings through burner efficiency is the main reason to use Honeywell ControlLinks, but Abig sees additional long-term value. "We're extremely happy with the performance. But beyond the energy savings, what I've really noticed is that the boilers operate with a lot fewer problems. We aren't generating as many service calls. Plus, because the boilers have been operating so smoothly and efficiently, our scheduled seasonal maintenance goes much quicker. There used to be a lot of time spent on maintenance, but that time, and the resulting cost, has definitely dropped. That's a savings you don't always notice right away when you look at the numbers, but it's a cost savings that definitely adds up. ControlLinks has definitely been a big plus for the university."

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