

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT'S HUSKY VILLAGE

Emme Controls Case Study



For 12 years, students at UConn's Husky Village were either freezing or sweating. One room was 80 and the other was 59. We brought in three HVAC contractors and nobody could fix the problem. Fortunately, our engineering firm introduced us to Emme Controls.

BILL SUROVIAK
Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
University of Connecticut

PROBLEM

Built in 2003, Husky Village is a six-building, 301 room dormitory that houses more than 600 fraternity and sorority students at the University of Connecticut. The original heating systems were designed with individual sensors in 2 rooms on each floor. It was simply impossible to regulate the heat in each room. One room would be 59 while another room would be at 80. Students would be sweating in one room, while the students next door would be doing their homework wearing sweatshirts and gloves. In desperation, students would use electric heaters for supplemental heat – until the fire department prevented that practice from continuing.

Three contractors were brought in to try to fix the problem to no avail. Some recommended gutting the buildings and starting over. Part of the problem was due to undersized ductwork. Much of the problem was that every dorm room had differing heat loads due to outside exposures and solar gain. Two sensors on a floor could not accurately reflect the temperatures in every room.

EMME SOLUTION

The first time that Justin Kabaik, PE from BL Companies walked through the Husky Village dorms, he knew that Emme Room-By-Room was the only system that could solve the problem in a cost effective manner. With a wireless sensor in every dorm room and an inflatable damper in every duct run, Emme was able to keep every room within 2 degrees of set point. The Emme system is also able to recirculate heat from rooms that are too warm to other areas where heat is needed.

THE RESULTS

"UConn liked the idea of the Emme control system and requested sole sourcing from the State. They are thrilled with the results."

"There has been nothing but positive feedback and everyone is impressed with the results. Units that used to run on heat all the time are now running maybe 20% of the time, even in really cold weather. We are saving a lot of energy."

JUSTIN KABABIK, PE, LEED, AP
Project Manager
BL Companies

"We did not have to wait for feedback – the feedback came to us! They are all saying "unbelievable – why didn't you do this sooner?!"

"There is not a lot of maintenance or opportunity for failure once the system is installed. It is set it and forget it."

"The technical support at Emme is excellent. Emme gets back to me immediately. It's very, very uncommon today to find that level of service, commitment and support."

RODNEY RAGUCCI
Senior Project Engineer
Air Temp Mechanical Services

