

Star Service migrates school district with S4 Open: OPC-N2 Routers

A local school district in the state of Louisiana has several sites with legacy Metasys installations. The Metasys infrastructure was originally installed as each school building was constructed or remodeled. Remote access had not been implemented on the legacy Companion Panels. In some cases these systems are in excess of 15 years old with little maintenance performed in recent years. Star Service has a maintenance contract with the district that guarantees life time preventive maintenance. As these systems became increasingly unreliable, many of the local controls have been permanently overridden to an on state so basic occupant comfort can continue to be provided in the short term. Many times this temporary fix results in over conditioning the indoor environment.



With the responsibility for upgrading resting on Star Service, the need for a cost effective solution that addressed central monitoring and management capability was paramount. In addition, we are also looking towards the future, setting the stage for adding energy management capabilities to every building in the district.

The plan is currently to eliminate the legacy Metasys supervisory controllers and replace them with ten S4 Open: OPC-N2 Routers, one in each of the 10 schools across the parish. These schools are in a 25 mile radius of each other. We are setting up the routers with Static IPs and communicating with them from a central server located at the school board office. OPC support was a

must as we are bringing the routers into an ASI Weblink front end.

In regards to cost effectiveness, there are no other solutions even close to the price of what we are doing this for. In addition, the S4 Open: OPC-N2 Router allows us to mitigate the district's building automation system away from Johnson Controls over a period of years, on our schedule and within the maintenance budget for the buildings.

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