

Small- and Medium-Size Building Automation and Control System Needs: Scoping Study

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Problem Statement



- Less than 10% of the buildings have building automation systems (BAS)
- Over 90% of buildings stock either:
 - small (<5,000 sf) or
 - medium-sized (between 5,000 sf and 50,000 sf)
- HVAC, lighting, plug loads in many of these buildings not properly controlled
 - Most of these buildings do not have a cost-effective way to monitor and control their building systems from central location (no BAS)
 - Equipment operates when building not occupied
- Consequence: Uncontrolled building operations lead to unnecessary energy waste of 10% to 25%
- Solution: Scoping study that lays out approach/criteria for realizing better controls in small/medium buildings

Project Objective and Team



- Characterize the monitoring and controls needs for the various end-uses, identify the requirements to develop control packages and the target cost of doing so
 - for both efficiency improvement and enabling grid integration
- Study conducted by three national laboratories
 - Pacific Northwest
 - Oak Ridge
 - Lawrence Berkeley

Potential Project Impact



- Many small buildings have inadequate controls, wasting as much as 10% to 25% of the energy consumption
- These buildings consume approximately 3 Quads of source energy annually
- By deploying cost-effective controls systems significant portion of the energy that is currently wasted can be avoided
 - Up to 750 trillion Btus annually

Link to BTO Strategic Goals



- This project contributes to the BTO goal to reduce the energy required to operate existing commercial buildings by 40 percent, at less than the cost of the energy saved
- Bring needed technologies and practices to market delivering:
 - Annual savings of 1,600 trillion BTUs by 2020
 - Annual savings of 6,000 trillion BTUs by 2030

Approach for the Scoping Study



- Building Characterization
- Communication Architectures
- Building Automation Systems (BASs)
- Requirements of the Devices Used to Monitor and Control
- Installed Cost of the Control Systems
- Control Retrofit of a Medium-Sized Commercial Building: Case Study
- Discussion and Recommendations





Definition of Small- and Medium-Sized Commercial Building



- For this study we used following definitions
 - Small: A building less than 5,000 sf
 - Medium: A building between 5,000 sf and 50,000 sf
- CBECS 2003 classifies buildings into 20 different types
 - HVAC, lighting and plug loads dominates most energy use in following building types: office, education, retail (including strip and enclosed mall), outpatient, religious worship and services
 - Similar control solutions for these buildings
- Based on CBECS, energy end use distributions for small- and medium-sized buildings not significantly different





Architectural Needs and Technical Requirements Identified



Architectural Needs for BASs

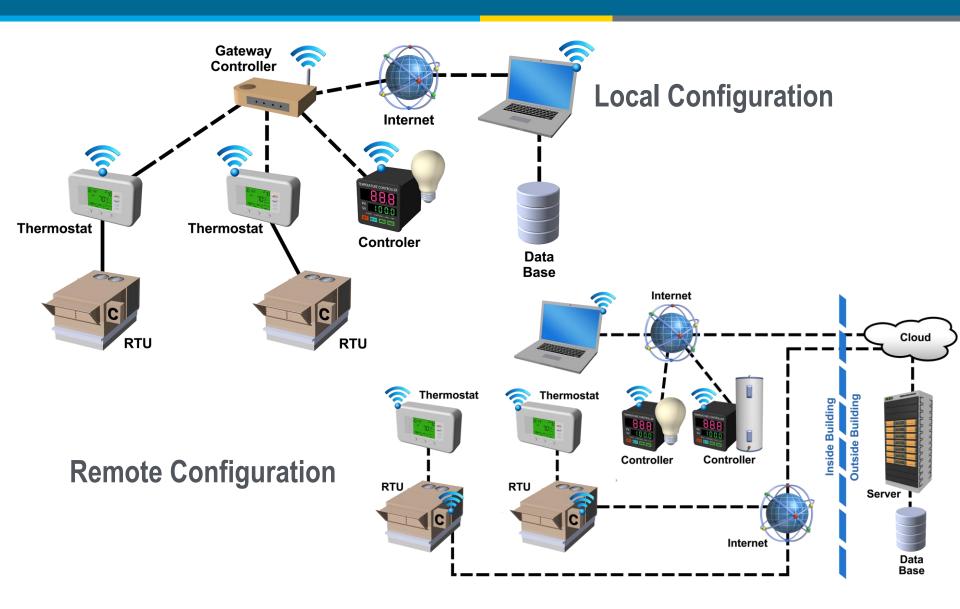
- Interoperability
- Scalability
- Deployment new vs. retrofit
- Open
- Plug-n-play
- Enable local or remote monitoring

Technical Requirements for Various Control Devices

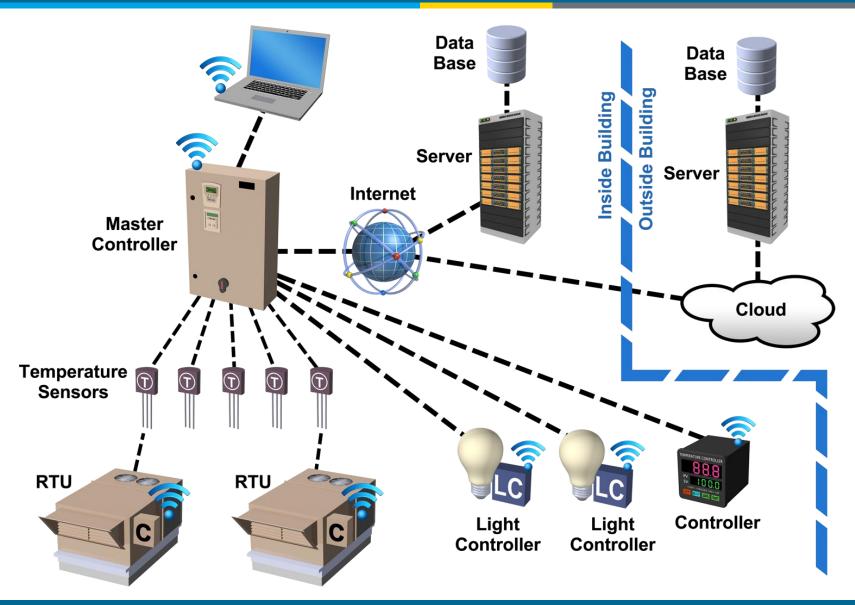
- Gateways
- Master Controller
- Communicating Thermostat
- General Purpose
 Controller
- Demand Response of HVAC, Lighting and other End-uses Loads

Small Building Controls Options





BASs with Local Control and Configuration and Local or Remote Monitoring for Medium-Sized Buildings



Study Summary



- Significant savings are possible if the buildings are retrofitted with controls that can be centrally managed
- These retrofits can be cost-effective, even in regions with low utility rates (<\$0.06/kWh)
- However, there are a number of hurdles to overcome
 - Some of the hurdles are technology and others policy
- Policy issues
 - Lack of trained personnel
 - Lack of easy financing
 - Split incentives
 - Lack of awareness of benefits and how to realize them
 - Current building codes do not require building controls
- Fundamental building blocks necessary to develop a cost-effective controls solution for small- and medium-sized commercial building exist
- These building blocks need to be packaged into open, standard and truly "plug-n-play" solutions

Recommendations: Technology



- Develop performance-based specification for controls architecture that is truly open, based on a standard and plugn-play and issue a "Controls Challenge" to industry to meet it
 - Solutions should scale, so they can be deployed in all building sizes
- Solution may have to be tailored by building size (type), for example, for buildings
 - less than 1,000 sf will need an easily programmable thermostat and occupancy-based lighting controls
 - between 1,000 sf and 5,000 sf, a networked programmable thermostat so central monitoring is possible and occupancy-based lighting controls
 - between 5,000 sf and 20,000 sf, a networked programmable thermostat, a good replacement advanced RTU controller and occupancy-based lighting controls
 - greater than 20,000 sf, a true central BAS

Recommendations: Policy



- Consider "mandating" certain minimum controls infrastructure for all commercial buildings, including small- and mediumsized buildings
 - ASHRAE 90.1 is "mandating" certain controls sequences
- Create pathways for easy financing of building controls retrofit
- Encourage utilities to provide incentives to create a market for these solutions
- Develop user guides/applications providing step by step instructions on how to implement controls sequences, control architectures with today's technology
- Educate building owners about controls benefits
- Provide solutions to deal with the split incentives

Project Plan & Schedule



Project plan:

Initiated in the second half of FY12 and completed as planned in the first quarter of FY13

Summary						Legend						
							Work co	mpleted				
ET-SENCON-PNNL-FY12-02							Active T	ask				
19471 (FY12)/25406 (FY13)							Milesto	nes & De	liverable	es (Origir	nal Plan)	
						Milestones & Deliverables (Actual)						
	FY2012				FY2013			FY2014				
	(Oct-Dec)	(Jan-Mar)	(Apr-Jun)	Q4 (Jul-Sep)	Q1 (Oct-Dec)	(Jan-Mar)	Q3 (Apr-Jun)	Q4 (Jul-Sep)	(Oct-Dec)	(Jan-Mar)	Q3 (Apr-Jun)	(Jul-Sep)
Task / Event	Q1	07	დ	Q	Q1	Q2	03	04	Q1	07	8	Q
Small-building control systems												
Task 1 Milestone: Identification of building automation system needs completed												
Task 2 Milestone: Identification of control capabilities completed												
Task 3 Milestone: Development of case-study completed												
Task 4 Milestone: Identification of monitoring needs completed											'	<u> </u>
Deliverable: Draft-final case-study building controls small/med bldgs cost-effective											'	
Deliverable: Final report		<u> </u>									<u>L</u> /	<u> </u>
Current work and future research												

Project Budget



Project Budget: \$155K received in FY12; this

budget is for all three labs

Cost to Date*: \$140K

Additional Funding: None

*as of 3/1/2013

Budget History									
FY2010		FY2	2011	FY2012					
DOE	Cost-share	DOE	Cost-share	DOE	Cost-share				
\$0K	\$0K	\$0K	\$0K	\$155K	\$0K				

Next Steps and Future Plans



Next Steps and Future Plans: Emerging Technologies is planning the next steps beyond the scoping study by issuing a Federal Opportunity Announcement for organizations to develop and demonstrate an open, scalable, plug-n-play control system that is suitable for small- and medium-sized commercial buildings