#### **OpenBuildingControl:**

### Performance Evaluation, Specification and Verification of Building Control Sequences



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

LBNL – ARUP – Integral Group – Taylor Engineering – PNNL/BIG Efficiency & Michael Wetter (PI) & Philip Haves (Co-PI) The team brings together MEP firms, facility owners & operators, control integrators, experts in specifying sequences of operations and in controls-oriented modeling



2

Controls is the Achilles heel of commercial buildings, yet there is not end-to-end quality control, and no standardization for control logic



Control-related problems (Ardehali, Smith 2002)

## End-to-end quality control

What if control sequences could be designed, improved, and deployed errorfree at lower costs to the owner, designer, controls provider and commissioning agent.

## **Standard for control logic**

BACnet standardizes communication,

**OpenBuildingControl** will standardize expressing **control sequences** and **functional tests** for bidding, automatic implementation and automated functional testing.



Deploy best practice, and verify performance along the design & life cycle

We develop a process with an integrated set of tools that allows end-to-end quality control, reuse of best practice control sequences, and continuous verification against design intent



Additions to OpenStudio/EnergyPlus toolchain



Workflow performance quantification and verification against design specification



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Energy-efficient, correctly functioning control sequences, at lower cost to owner, designer and control provider.

#### Key take-away

- Contribute to closing the performance gap between design and operation through correct implementation and verification of controls.
- Provide industry and DOE's tools program with formal processes to test and assess the performance of control sequences.
- Reduce energy use by 1 quad/year.

Dissemination

- Deploy through open-source tools and leverage open standards:
  - OpenStudio/EnergyPlus tool-chain "Spawn of EnergyPlus"
  - Modelica Buildings library and Modelica IBPSA library
- Create market pull: work with large building owners and innovative MEP firms who test and demonstrate tools and process on real buildings
- Establish standardization: Work with ASHRAE TC
- Ensure international applicability (as control vendors are multi-national): Collaborate with control vendors (TAG), ARUP London (self-funded), and IBPSA Project 1



# Thank You

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