



BGC-027

NEWS RELEASE 21.3.10



Top class building controls for Educational Village

Building controls specialist, BG Controls, has installed an intelligent building management system (BMS) at the newly built Gainsborough Educational Village in Lincolnshire.

The development brings together four, old schools in the town into one state-of-the-art facility shared by two schools - Trent Valley Academy providing secondary education for 1,200 mainstream pupils and the Aegir Community School with 112 pupils. The four-storey building has multiple low and zero carbon technologies that have been incorporated into its design, which include rainwater harvesting, biomass boilers, ground source heat pumps and natural ventilation.

BG Controls has installed the building management system, which monitors and controls these technologies to ensure optimum efficiencies and best performance. Natural ventilation is enabled by ventilation stacks, which are situated on the side of the building. When the controllers record a rise in temperature or an increase in CO₂ levels then the BMS activates the dampers on the vent stacks to open and draw stale air up and out of the classrooms. In turn, the controllers on the windows automatically open to allow the fresh air to be drawn in and circulated.

The site is remotely monitored by BG Controls' in-house bureau, where engineers regularly check and interrogate the system to diagnose and rectify any faults. To ensure maximum energy efficiencies are achieved, the Village's facilities management team also makes telephone calls to bureau engineers to advise them of forthcoming changes to occupancy levels. For example, if a meeting takes place outside of normal school hours or if there is a closure then BG engineers can remotely access the BMS to adjust the heating schedule accordingly. Proactive and remote programming of the control system means that energy can be conserved - and with minimal involvement from onsite facilities staff.

"Gainsborough Educational Village is committed to lowering its impact on the environment and reducing its energy consumption through its many eco-friendly technologies," says Facilities Manager, Andy Smith. "BG Controls has designed a system which ensures all these technologies work smartly together to save energy and create a comfortable working environment for staff and students."