



DEL-014 VUE

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Control room with a Vue

BG Controls has announced that it is installing and monitoring the building controls at 42 Vue multiplex cinemas across the country.

Vue Entertainment has built a network of over 60 modern multiplex cinemas throughout the UK, which attract 32 million customers every year. Heating, ventilation and air-conditioning play a key role in delivering a comfortable and enjoyable environment for its visitors.

The most recent building controls installations that have been carried out by BG operate on equipment provided by world leading developer and manufacturer, Delta Controls Inc. These sites operate using an integrated system, which is based on open protocol, native BACnet™ technology.

The sophisticated, BACnet™ based, automated building controls system delivers optimum comfort levels for cinema visitors. In addition, to ensure that maximum energy and cost savings are also achieved, every screen at each cinema is automatically controlled as defined by the changing film schedules.

An Ethernet ready building controller connects each on-site system to multiple sub controllers within the screens and public areas. The Delta Controls' building controllers exceed the requirements laid down by the BACnet™ standard, and the routing and BBMD capabilities are ideally suited to these complex BACnet/IP networking applications.

By using BACnet™ protocols over a corporate Wide Area Network (WAN), on standard IT equipment, BG Controls can connect to and remotely monitor the Vue sites from its central service bureau. This allows comprehensive room automation as well as remote diagnostics and service by trained BG Controls engineers to each of the 42 sites.

Adjusting building controls in accordance with fluctuating occupancy levels at each cinema is key to limiting energy consumption. In order to facilitate this, BG Controls receives a weekly 'Occupancy Table' for each cinema, which lists the screen times for the coming week. This enables bureau technicians to programme the building controls for every screen and public area within each cinema. As a result, valuable energy is only being used when necessary and not wasted on unoccupied space.

Energy is also conserved via optimum start / stop strategies along with 'midday pause' control, which uses the inertia of the building fabric to contain the warmth.

Factoring weekly screen times, so boilers and chillers are only used when required, has resulted in a significant reduction in energy consumption.

As BG Controls' Bureau Manager Marc Harrison says, "Our cinema clients typically receive a financial return of two to four times their annual investment with us, which is above and beyond a simple automated solution. This equates to a minimum of 10% in energy savings. Above all, we maintain visitor comfort levels. No complaints, no request for refunds from cinema goers and an enhanced brand image for our client."

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