

Health Case Study

Brothers of the Sacred Heart Retirement home

It's been a hard act to follow for the IQ251 controller and 962 graphics supervisor recently installed by Baltimore-based YEM at Provincial House, Rhode Island, a retirement home for members of the Catholic evangelical order, the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. The equipment's main task is to control and monitor the building's heating plant, a job that for over 25 years had been performed with great skill and commitment by one of the community's own number, Brother Gilbert.

The IQ251 provides close, automatic control and monitoring of Provincial House's two oil-fired boilers, domestic water booster system and main system pumps, plus 12 pumps and three zone valves on fin tube radiation circuits, two unit heaters and a pair of air handlers that supply tempered fresh air. Refrigerator, freezer and domestic hot water temperatures are also monitored – and alarmed. Access to control settings and monitored data is via the PC-based 962 supervisor. Two of the Brothers have been trained in its use by YEM.



By enabling central management of the heating, the 962 has made it much easier to optimize the system. Through its alarm reporting facility it also provides immediate notification of any plant problems, such as pump or boiler failure. Should the lead boiler or primary pump go down, the IQ controller automatically energizes the lag unit. It also brings on the lag boiler if the lead is unable to meet demand for heat unaided. Its actions ensure that comfort conditions are maintained.

The largest in the Novar IQ controller range, the IQ251 has a maximum of 128 input/output points - almost all of which have been used on this project.

In the past, good control was achieved purely through the efforts of Brother Gilbert, who had to make daily rounds of the boiler house and other parts of the building. Such was his dedication he even calculated and recorded degree-day values. It is also thanks to his endeavors that the heating plant is in immaculate condition, despite being forty years old. Now in his nineties, he can finally let modern technology take the strain.

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The logo for Trend Control Systems Limited, featuring the word "TREND" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The letters are closely spaced and have a slight shadow effect.