ecosync

CASE STUDY

Homerton College

40% savings

HOMERTON COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CLIENT OVERVIEW:

Homerton College is the biggest and newest College of the University of Cambridge. Their buildings mix old and new and sits within generous green spaces.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE:

To reduce unnecessarily heating empty rooms and incurring needlessly high energy bills and gain greater, smarter control over their heating outside of term time.

Hybrid working and flexible occupancy patterns means the way buildings are heated needs to evolve. Rooms in commercial buildings are lying empty more than ever before, yet they continue to be heated the same. With the EcoSync solution, empty rooms represent and economical and environmental relief, as opposed to a burden.

Homerton College were aware that they were unnecessarily heating empty rooms and incurring needlessly high energy bills. They also wanted greater, smarter control over their heating outside of term time.

As a result, EcoSync retrofitted maintenance-free intelligent TRV devices, connected via a single ethernet gateway (with 4G backup).

Our devices record 32 pieces of data every 5 minutes, including the air temperature, the radiator valve position and the hot water flow temperature. These give an accurate view of how much energy buildings are using on a room by room basis, in real time. Data which is fed into EcoSync's machine learning models that predicts how much energy is needed to heat any given room. If a specific room

is unoccupied it does not need to be heated, and the energy saved is displayed on EcoSync's Carbon Meter.

Thanks to in-room scannable QR codes, these savings are not only visible to facility managers, but also the building occupants. Encouraging environmentally and fiscally responsible behaviour by allowing for the day-to-day users of the building to directly see how even small actions, such as closing a window that was left open, can lower energy use and reduce carbon footprint.
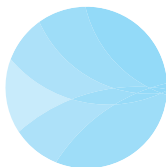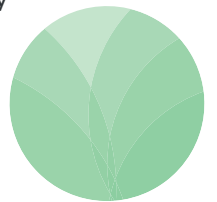
STOP HEATING
EMPTY ROOMS

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THE SOLUTION

A retro-fitted, easy to install, heat management system that allows remote and individualised control of heating via a simple-to-use dashboard. Accessible from anywhere at any time, allowing building managers to set schedules and monitor heating from one centralised platform.
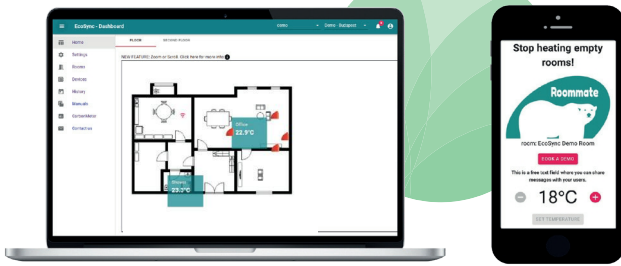
INSTALLATION TIMELINE

SEPTEMBER 2022:

390 devices connected via **5 ethernet gateways** control to 276 rooms spanning across 4 floors

CURRENT COVERAGE WITH US:

390 devices over 4 floors

THE RESULTS

From September 2022 – December 2022 EcoSync saved Homerton College:

39.28
MWh of energy
That's the equivalent of:

Preventing
7.18 Tonnes
of carbon being released into the atmosphere

342 Trees
absorbing carbon for a year

Overall savings:
40%
energy saved

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3 POINT VALIDATION

Baseline Consumption Methodology

In St. Peters College, we compared to a heat meter which directly measured the heat output of the boiler. The heat meter measured all hot water usage, including the hot water required for showers and kitchens, so did not directly tell us heating energy consumption.

However, we used the months of term time outside the heating season to estimate the breakdown of energy consumption between heating and hot water, and found it was:

45% heating - 55% hot water

Applying this breakdown, we found that their heating energy consumption was 18.64 MWh from January to March 2022, and our digital twins predicted 19.85 MWh over the same period – an accuracy of 94%.

Control Building

From January to March 2022, Corpus Christi College installed EcoSync in one of two identical student accommodation buildings.

They found that their gas bill was considerably lower in the building with the EcoSync solution installed, compared to the building without:

January: 27.3% saving

February: 32.4% saving

March: 45.9% saving

We had initially predicted a saving of 27% using conservative assumptions about how our technology could be used, and were pleased to see that users and building managers quickly adapted to achieve even better results.

EPC Comparison

At Lady Margaret Hall College, we used our digital twins to estimate the total energy consumption, without the use of the EcoSync solution:

285 kWh / m2 per year (heating & hot water)

We compared this to the Energy Performance Certificate, which stated a total energy consumption of:

309 kWh / m2 per year (heating & hot water)

An accuracy of 92%.

STOP HEATING EMPTY ROOMS

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