



Newark Public Schools Newark, New Jersey

Statistics. The largest School District in New Jersey. Initial project was 3 Schools in 3 different locations.

Team. Newark Public Schools (NPS) teamed with Edward H. Brzezowski, P.E. of The Ferreira Group and Richards-Zeta (RZ) to unlock the Johnson Metasys system and allow NPS simple read and write access to every Johnson data point via a RZ M2 hosted website.

Commissioned. August 2005

Challenge. The existing building automation systems (BAS) in all three schools consists of Johnson Metasys (JCI) controls, with a Johnson NCM in each school. The customer was disenchanted with the incumbent BAS vendor and frustrated with the lack of access to the valuable information in the BAS system. NPS wanted all JCI data to be available, to read-write, in native IT standards (XML~HTTP~TCP/IP). The challenge was to “open up” the system.

Goals. The Newark Public School District (NPS) was looking for a solution enabling all of the Johnson Metasys data to be managed on one web-based Graphical User Interface (GUI) allowing full view, overrides, scheduling, trending and alarming of any system parameters. NPS wanted to migrate all of the information up and on to the School IP backbone.

Solution. The RZ M2 has opened up the world to Newark Public Schools’ HVAC Manager, Rodney Williams. He is now able to manage all three schools from the Central Office and has built a customized web-site GUI to view all data, as well as create trends, alarms and schedules.

Value Propositions.

- √ The Legacy BAS system (JCI), remained in the architecture extending it’s useful life.
- √ RZ M2~ Multi-Protocol Exchange Platform was added easily and securely to the NPS IP architecture.
- √ Existing Johnson NCM’s and N-2 ASC fully utilized.
- √ New control functionality and integration to other building systems can now be added with the same M2 platform.
- √ Building systems are now dynamically accessible via a open M2 hosted website accessed with only a standard Internet Browser.
- √ Value of original investment in BAS was extended significantly.
- √ Increased the investment yield of the NPS IP network.

“The RZ M2 has opened up the world for us. We are no longer forced to use JCI. Installation was extremely simple. I literally plugged in 2 wires and was able to autodiscover all of the JCI points and create and view all data in simple websires using RZ’s OMEGA platform”.

Rodney Williams
HVAC Manager
Newark Public Schools