Intelligent Equipment® puts precision at fingertips of engineers during commissioning of art-filled warehouse

**Issue**
Protecting treasured artwork and artifacts demands tight tolerances for humidity and temperature control. Stringent standards for climate control were required during a major renovation of warehouse space for the Regatta Museum Collections by UC Berkeley. Tolerances were set at 68 degrees F, within +/- 2 degrees and 50 percent relative humidity (RH), +/- 5 percent.

**Solution**
Two 10-ton Daikin Rebel commercial rooftop systems were specified for Phase 2 (a different manufacturer supplied the system used in Phase 1) with a standard at 500 cfm of peak design dehumidification conditions, with 90 percent of the load as outside air.

“The variable speed compressors on the Rebel units have the capability to provide temperature and humidity control at significantly less cost than the installed price of an air-cooled chiller desiccant system with storage tank,” said Daikin representative Steve Dobberstein, senior...
sales engineer with Norman S. Wright Mechanical Equipment Co. in Brisbane, CA.

Each Rebel rooftop unit is connected to the Daikin Intelligent Equipment solution that provides real-time data to anticipate and respond to operational needs. At the Regatta climate-control warehouse, Intelligent Equipment was used to calibrate the rooftop equipment during the commissioning process. “The customer trusted the idea of using the Rebel rooftops and Intelligent Equipment in this climate-control application. The fact that a Daikin applications engineer half-way across the country can be virtually hands-on with Intelligent Equipment allowed us to sell the job,” Dobberstein said, noting the Rebel units were installed in February 2015 and the start-up process began in summer.

“Intelligent Equipment provides a window into basic trending information on base temperature and humidity, and other control points such as compressor speed, fan speed, and unit state, giving engineers the ability to adjust the settings and troubleshoot,” said Matt Dodds, Daikin application engineer for commercial rooftop units. “On a remote basis, you can go into the data for a deeper level of insight than you would by talking to a service technician standing by a unit on the roof.” Authorized parties access Intelligent Equipment for rooftop performance and operating conditions on either a highly secure Ethernet LAN connection, or a 3G-high security cellular network that connects directly to the cloud, which prevents unauthorized users from compromising the system or accessing other networks.

**Outcome**

“Intelligent Equipment gave access to diagnostic points unobtainable from the facility’s building automation system (BAS). Intelligent Equipment is also a helpful application because of the high cost of technician services,” Dobberstein said, noting the platform’s remote troubleshooting capability eliminated several service calls (truck rolls) during commissioning.

The bottom line? Intelligent Equipment solution saved time and money during the 6-week-long start-up and commissioning process of a critical-control application where rooftop package units are seldom used. “With some fine tuning, Daikin was able to optimize the control of the Rebel units to meet the required tolerances of +/- 2 degrees and +/- 5 percent RH,” Dodds said.

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Daikin Intelligent Equipment allowed 24/7 remote monitoring from anywhere via a laptop, mobile phone, or tablet. Daikin Intelligent Equipment provided real-time, remote access to diagnostic points that the facility’s building automation system (BAS) could not provide.