## **Typical Problems of AHU and Air Movement in Buildings**

## Tsinghua University Oct. 2006

#### **Contents**

#### Supply More Than Needed

- TP1: Oversize of fresh air supply
- TP2: CAV serving big space
- TP3: Continuously running in partial time occupied zones

#### Wrong Air Handling Process and Control

- TP4: Dislike fresh air?
- TP5: Reheat of VAVBOX at partial load time in summer

#### Unexpected Air Movement in Buildings

- TP6: Chimney effect leading to fresh air intake in high-rise buildings
- TP7: Local air exhaust increasing cooling load

## **Solution: VFD**



Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference for Enhanced Building Operations, Shenzhen, China, November 6 - 9, 2006

4

## **Electricity saved**

## ■ 50Hz→30Hz

■ 100m<sup>3</sup>/h.p→50m<sup>3</sup>/h.p

## electricity of fans saved:

working hours per day: 15.5h, saved: 1727kWh/d operating days per year: 250d, saved: 430,000kWh/a

# electricity saved through reducing the cooling load.

load: 14.1kJ/kg; volume saved:37790m<sup>3</sup>/h; average COP: 4.82 Operating days: 120 saved: 68,500kWh/yr.

## **TP2**

## Example: a shopping mall B

- Gross area:510,000m<sup>2</sup>,
- Cooling area:380,000m<sup>2</sup>
- Air-conditioning style: all-air systems

Number of AHU: 530

Power (kW)	30	15	12	11	8.8	7.5	7.2	5.5	3.6	3	2.4	2.2	1.8	1.6	0.8
number	33	8	12	229	12	128	4	52	12	5	3	15	6	4	7



#### Status

- Electricity used by fans is very large ,near 2/3 of the total consumption of air-conditioning.
- The volume of air supply can't go with the change of load.
- When several people in mall, fans have to run with full load.

### Proposed solution

Add VFD to change the volume of air supply to meet the change of load.

**Proposed solution**—VFD



#### Power of Fan

#### **Power saved**



## TP3

## Example: government bldg. C Status

- Some special areas in the building, such as meeting room, dinning-room, gymnasium hall, etc..
- Their AHUs need to run 24h continuously even when there is no people at all.

### **Solution**

## AHU for dinning-room operations according to the dinner time.

- On: half or one hour before dinner
- Off: at the end of dinner.

## **Solution**

#### Meeting-room

- Half an hour before meetings, turn off the damper of the fresh air and turn on the fan, using return air to lower temp. quickly.
- When meeting is on ,open the damper to 20% to send fresh air
- And change the frequency of fan to 30Hz to avoid noise and save energy

### **Electricity saved**

Aim at different functional rooms, set different strategies and write these to BAS

In building C, by the methods mentioned above, we can save 67,000kWh/yr with a low cost.





## **Temp. and Volume**

HUNISMAN HALL AHU01



Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference for Enhanced Building Operations, Shenzhen, China, November 6 - 9, 2006

15



# Why not use fresh air in off-season? Fresh air has a Low T at night We can close the cooling coil

#### TP5

TIME	OA TEMP/°C	OA RELATIVE HUMIDITY	SUPPLY AIR TEMP°C	RETURN AIR TEMP°C	COOLING LOADw/m <sup>2</sup>	VALVE%
13:30	24.4	0.25	13.9	25.0	71.4	0.39
14:30	24.4	0.26	13.9	25.0	74.2	0.74
15:30	25.0	0.27	15.0	25.0	67.4	1
16:30	25.0	0.27	15.6	25.0	68.4	1
17:30	25.0	0.3	15.6	25.0	63.4	1
<b>19:30</b>	21.7	0.5	13.9	<b>23.9</b>	60.7	0.88
20:30	<b>21.1</b>	0.54	13.9	23.9	59.7	0.31
21:30	20.0	0.59	13.9	23.9	55.3	0.29
22:30	<b>18.9</b>	0.67	13.9	23.3	<b>49.9</b>	0.27
23:30	18.3	0.72	13.9	23.3	47.1	0.25
0:30	17 <b>.2</b>	0.76	13.9	23.3	47.1	0.23
1:30	16.7	0.81	13.9	23.3	47.1	0.22
2:30	17.8	0.77	13.9	23.3	47.1	0.22
3:30	17.2	0.77	13.9	23.3	47.8	0.22

## TP5

TAG	ROOM	OCCUPANCY	TEMP F	SETTING F	FLOW CFM	MINFLOW	DAMPER %	REHEAT VALVE		
2-1	250	YES	73	73	796	800	33.6	20		
2-2	247	YES	71.5	72	500	500	42.4	24.8		
2-3	235	YES	71.8	72	656	650	<b>56.</b> 8	27.2		
2-4	228	YES	71.8	72	0	500	99. 2	54.8		
2-5	228	YES	72	72	0	600	100	<b>66.</b> 4		
2–6	203	YES	71.8	72	592	600	28	2.8		
2-7	203	YES	72.2	72	424	450	<b>38.</b> 4	4.8		
2-8	203	YES	71.5	72	400	400	41.2	6.8		
2–9	213	YES	72	72	220	200	<b>50.</b> 4	14.8		
10	213	YES	72. 2	72	208	200	<b>49.</b> 2	2		
11	220	YES	<b>72.</b> 8	72	0	650	100	0		
12	220	YES	72	72	268	250	49.2	6.8		
13	220	YES	71.8	72	352	350	43.6	2		
14	220	YES	72	72	0	200	100	19. <mark>2</mark>		
Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference for Enhanced Building Operations, Shenzhen, China, November 6 - 9, 2006										

#### TP6

#### **Example: E**

#### Low rise: 1~17F; high: 18~28F



Due to heat pressure, large amounts of heat and humidity air enters the building from high rise, and then out through the lower. The volume is about 74,400m<sup>3</sup>/h.

 Therefore, unexpected fresh air make the cooling load rise sharply. (load for fresh air amounts to 51.8%),







#### **Contents**

#### Supply More Than Needed

- TP1: Oversize of fresh air supply
- TP2: CAV serving big space
- TP3: Continuously running in partial time occupied zones

#### Wrong Air Handling Process and Control

- TP4: Dislike fresh air?
- TP5: Reheat of VAVBOX at partial load time in summer

#### Unexpected Air Movement in Buildings

- TP6: Chimney effect leading to fresh air intake in high-rise buildings
- TP7: Local air exhaust increasing cooling load

## **Solutions**

#### To low the load of fresh air:

- Shut the windows during the operation time.
- Reduce volume of air entering from unconditioning areas, such as staircases, corridors, washing rooms, et.
- To low the loss of energy supplied to the air-conditioning areas:
  - Shut the doors of staircases to slow up the volume air caused by heat pressure.
  - Prevent the handled air into the un-conditioning area from the air-conditioning areas.

## Thank you