

GPG Outbrief 03

Chiller Plant Control Optimization System

GPG Program | U.S. General Services Administration | June 8, 2017

The logo for the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), consisting of the letters "GSA" in white on a dark blue square background.

GSA

Reports Online

- ❑ Infographic
- ❑ 4-page Findings
- ❑ Full Report
- ❑ Additional Resources

www.gsa.gov/gpg

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the GSA website. The page title is "Control Optimization System for Chiller Plants". The navigation menu includes "GSA", "TRAVEL", "REAL ESTATE", "ACQUISITION", "TECHNOLOGY", "POLICY & REGULATIONS", and "ABOUT US". The sidebar contains a table of contents for the "GPG PROGRAM" with the following items:

Overview
What is GPG?
Published Findings
Building Envelope
Energy Management
> 028. Control Optimization for Chillers
025. Socially Driven HVAC
003. Advanced Power Strips
001. Wireless Sensor Networks
HVAC
Lighting
On-Site Power & Renewables
Water
Ongoing Assessments
Request for Information
Outbrief Webinars
Technology Deployments

The main content area features the title "Control Optimization System for Chiller Plants" and the date "GPG-028, September 2016". The text states: "The control optimization system optimizes chiller plant performance by monitoring and controlling five interdependent systems. A recent study found a 35% energy savings and payback of five years, assuming a normal average energy rate of \$0.11/kWh. Click on the infographic below to enlarge." To the right, there are links for "READ 4-PAGE FINDINGS" and "DOWNLOAD FULL REPORT".

The infographic, titled "028 CONTROL OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM FOR CHILLER PLANTS", is dated "SEPTEMBER 2016". It is categorized under "OPPORTUNITY" and "TECHNOLOGY". The text reads: "80% OF GSA FLOOR SPACE IS IN LARGE BUILDINGS" and "OPTIMIZES SYSTEM PRESSURE AND TEMPERATURE DIFFERENCE (DELTA T) MANAGES CHILLER LIFT AND FLOW BY MONITORING AND CONTROLLING FIVE INTERDEPENDENT SYSTEMS". A diagram shows a building with three chiller units (CH-1, CH-2, CH-3) and three condenser pumps (CTP-1, CTP-2, CTP-3) connected to a network of pipes. The diagram also shows cooling towers (CT-1, CT-2, CT-3) and air handler units (AHU). The diagram is labeled "Warm water" and "Cool water".

Below the infographic, there is a section for "M&V" (Measurement and Verification) with the text: "PACIFIC NORTHWEST NATIONAL LABORATORY assessed a control optimization system for chiller plants provided by Siemens at the Frank M. Johnson Building, Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, Montgomery, Alabama".

Upcoming GPG Outbriefs - Thursdays, 12 PM ET

July 13	Condensing Boilers
August 10	Synchronous and Cogged Fan Belts
September 14	Next-Generation Chillers

Webinar Recordings

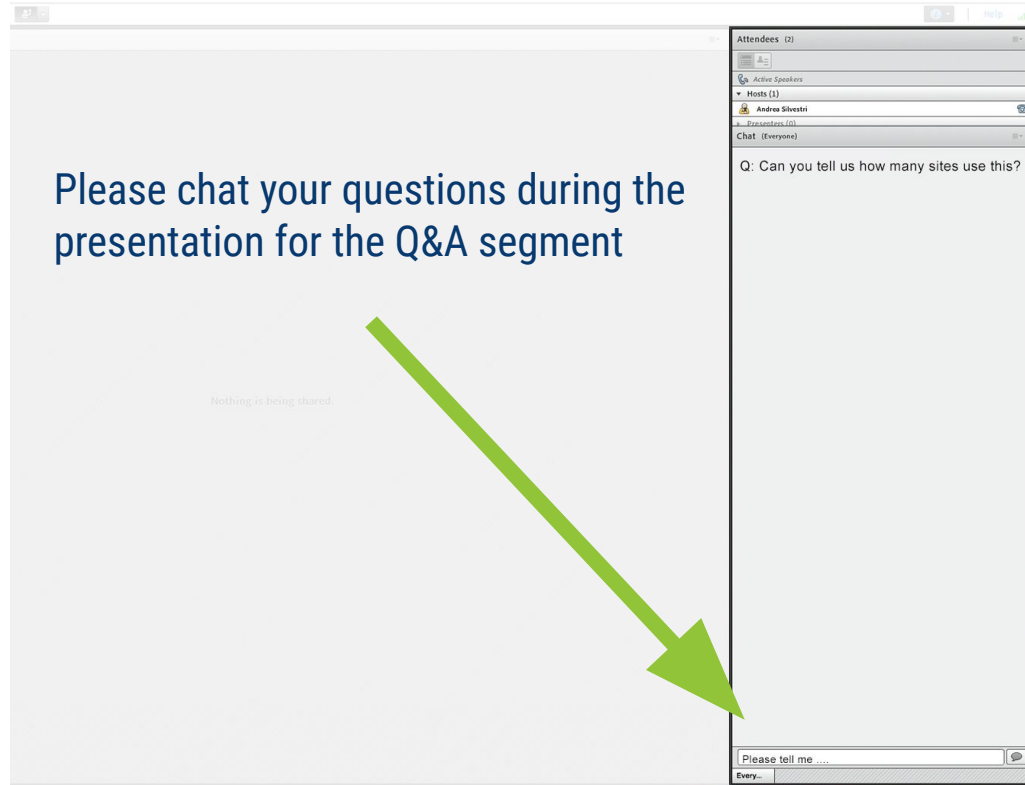
Access all webinars on [GSA.gov](https://www.gsa.gov)

[GSA.gov/GPG](https://www.gsa.gov/GPG)

How to Ask Questions

Please chat your questions during the presentation for the Q&A segment

Nothing is being shared.



The screenshot shows a presentation slide on the left and a chat window on the right. The slide contains the text 'Please chat your questions during the presentation for the Q&A segment' and 'Nothing is being shared.' The chat window is titled 'Attendees (2)' and shows a list of participants: 'Active Speakers', 'Hosts (1)' (including 'Andrea Silvestri'), and 'Presenters (0)'. Below this is a 'Chat (Everyone)' section with a message: 'Q: Can you tell us how many sites use this?'. At the bottom of the chat window is an input field with the text 'Please tell me ...' and a microphone icon.


Webinar Agenda

- ❑ **Overview of GPG (5 minutes)**
Michael Lowell, GPG Program Manager
- ❑ **Control Optimization System for Chiller Plants Assessment (20 minutes)**
Ron Underhill, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
- ❑ **On-the-ground Feedback (10 minutes)**
Mark Moody, GSA Region 4
John Tegan, GSA Region 3
- ❑ **Q & A (15 minutes)**

GPG Overview



Michael Lowell
Project Manager, GPG



The GPG program enables GSA to make sound investment decisions in next generation building technologies based on their real world performance.

GPG Process



Identify promising technologies at the edge of commercialization



Pilot technology installations within GSA's real estate portfolio



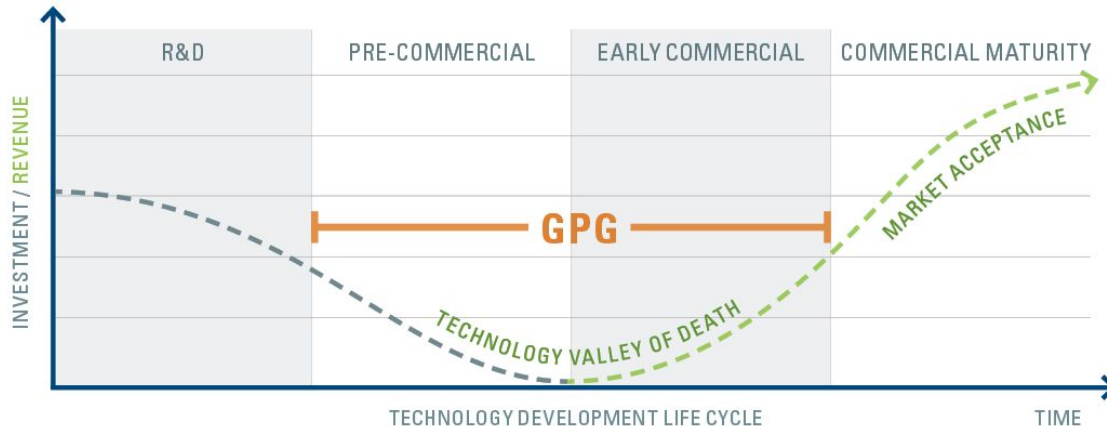
Partner with Department of Energy national laboratories to objectively evaluate real-world performance



Recommend technologies with broad deployment potential for GSA

Leading by Example

GSA's Proving Ground accelerates market acceptance by objectively assessing innovative building technologies in real-world environments, and deploying those that deliver. To date, GSA has installed 9 technologies across more than 200 buildings. In aggregate, these technologies are delivering \$7.8 Million in annual O&M savings.



GSA Deployments of Chiller Plant Optimization

- R3, Veteran's Administration, Philadelphia, PA – 480,000 ft²
- R4–Test-bed, Frank Johnson FB, Montgomery, AL – 65,660 ft², 1,200 ton plant
- R7, Baton Rouge Federal Building, Baton Rouge, LA – 254,170 ft²
- R7, H Boggs Federal Building, Baton Rouge, LA – 706,400 ft²
- R7, Allen J Ellender Federal Building, Houma, LA – 63,648 ft²
- R7, Wisdom Federal Courthouse, New Orleans, LA – 249,478 ft²
- R5, Stokes US Courthouse, Cleveland, OH – 766,423 ft²
- R5, Celebreeze Federal Building, Cleveland, OH – 1,471,286 ft²
- NCR, LBJ Department of Education, Washington DC – 640,332 ft²

Measurement & Verification



Ron Underhill

R&D Staff, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

GPG-028

Control Optimization System for Water-Cooled Chiller Plants

General Services Administration
Public Buildings Service



GPG-028 | SEPTEMBER 2016

CONTROL OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM FOR CHILLER PLANTS



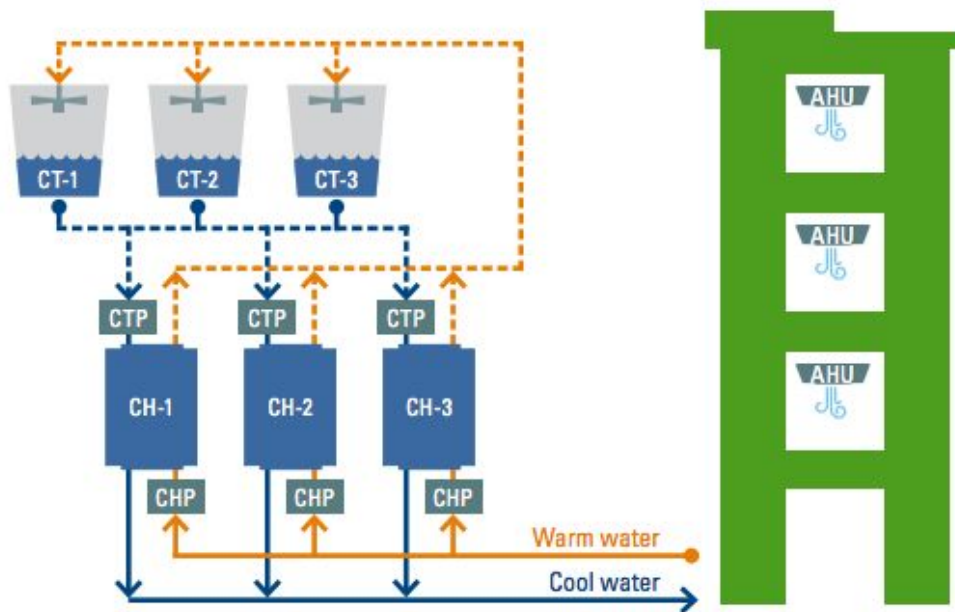
Simplified Chilled Water System Optimization Increases Plant Efficiency

Chiller plants, the dominant source of space conditioning for commercial buildings with more than 200,000 ft² of floor space, are arguably the unsung heroes of occupant comfort. Still, conventional chillers are typically designed to run most efficiently at peak loads, when, in reality, peak load conditions are rare. For this reason, and because over 80% of GSA floor space is in large buildings, GSA has a keen interest in optimizing its chiller operations. A new technology, a control optimization system for chiller plants, aims to improve chiller plant efficiency at part load and to minimize total power consumption in two ways: by aligning pressure and temperature setpoints with real-time system dynamics and by controlling pump and fan speeds. In 2013, GSA's GPG program commissioned the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to assess the control optimization system under real-world conditions at the Frank M. Johnson Jr. Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in Montgomery, Alabama. Comparing the technology's performance

GPG-028. Control Optimization System for Chiller Plants

Optimizes system pressure & temperature difference (Delta-T)

Manages chiller lift and flow by monitoring and controlling five interdependent systems



Opportunity

80% GSA floor space in large buildings
The majority of which is cooled by chillers



Measurement & Verification

Frank M. Johnson Jr. Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse, Montgomery, Alabama

1,200-Ton Plant

Three 400-ton constant-speed centrifugal chillers

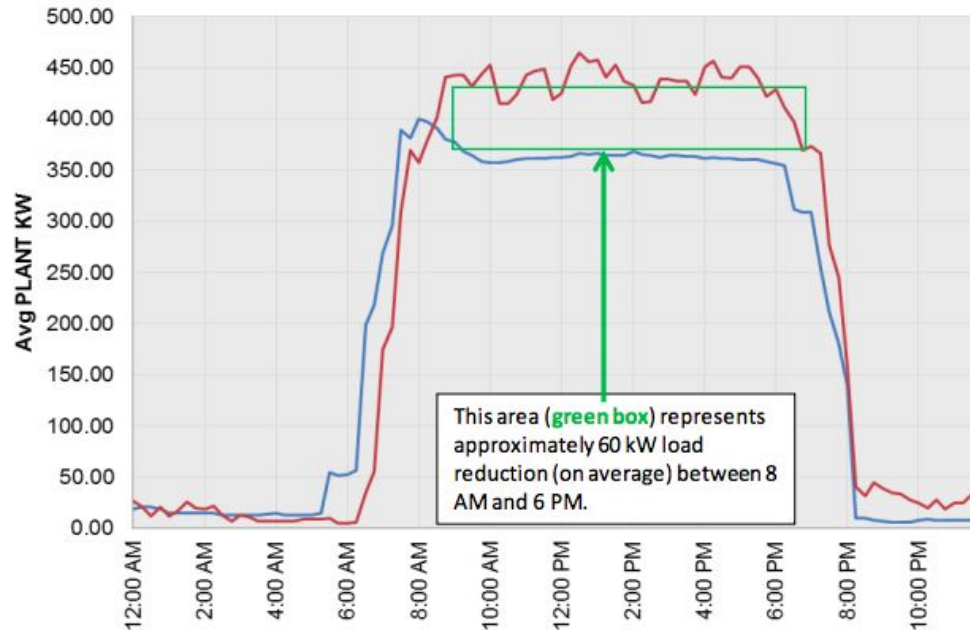
Technology for test-bed measurement and verification, provided by Siemens.



Increased Efficiency

Pre- and post-installation power comparison

Averaged over the 8-month monitoring period (Jan. 2013 through Sept. 2013)



Chiller Plant average kW **Red** = Pre-Simulation, **Blue** = Post

Maintained Delta-T above 8°

ΔT

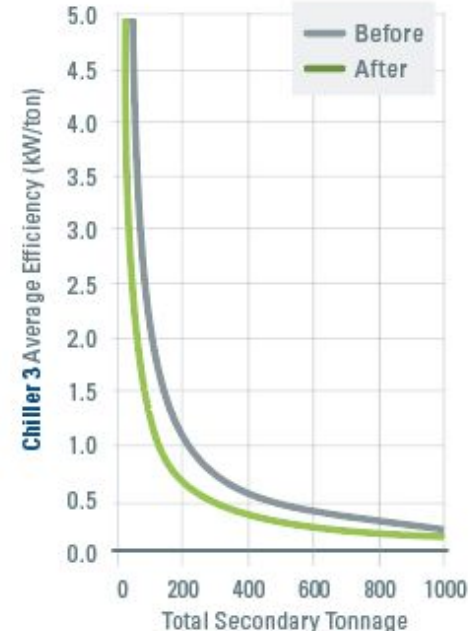
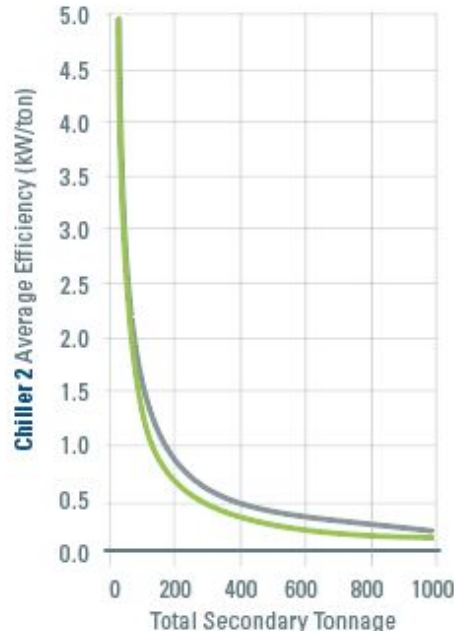
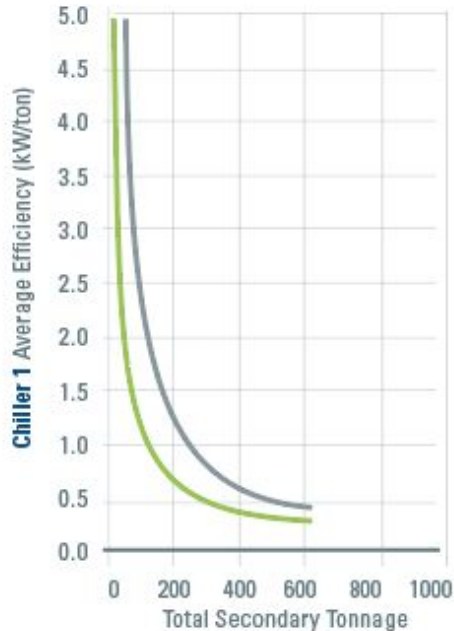
8–18°F

During part-load conditions >10°F consistently

Energy Savings, Especially at Part Loads

35% savings (+/- 10%)

Performance averaged 0.64 kW/ton after control optimization



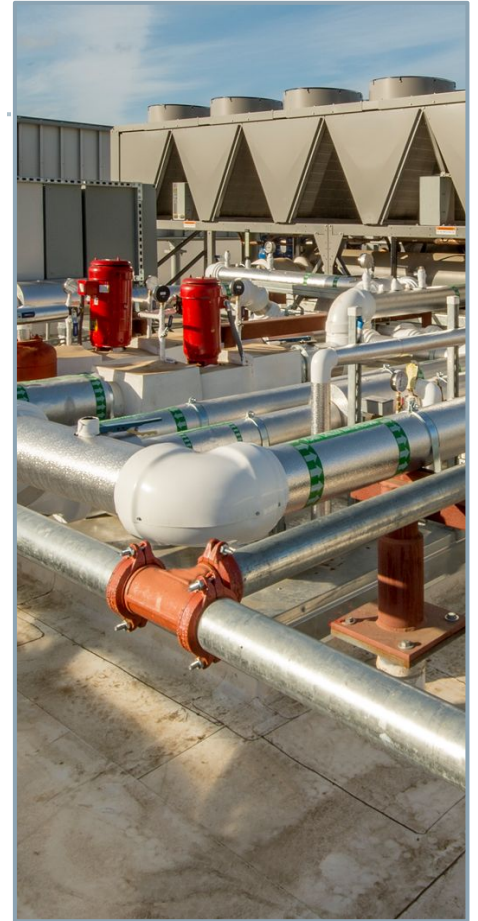
Cost-Effectiveness

7 year payback at test bed with \$0.08 kWh utility rate

Payback is 5 years at national average of \$0.11/kWh

> 6 months of cooling season needed to be cost-effective

- @ > \$0.11/kWh, load > 3 million ton-hours/yr
- @ < \$0.11/kWh, load > 4 million ton-hours/yr



Further Improving Chiller Plant Performance



Cooling Tower Leaving Water Temperature (ECWT) Setpoint Reset

During cooler/dryer conditions, the ECWT can be lowered.

Chilled-Water Supply Temperature (ChWST) Setpoint Reset

Raising the chilled-water supply temperature will allow the evaporator refrigerant pressure to be increased, thereby reducing the load on the compressor and raising the COP.

Improved Optimal Equipment Runtime

This technology seeks to optimize pumping power based on dynamic loads. Validate planned staging operations to ensure that maximum efficiency is realized.

GSA Deployment Opportunity

Centrifugal chillers with loads > 3 million ton-hrs/yr

For energy rates below the national average, cooling loads > 4 million ton-hours per year are recommended.

Also consider for incorporation into new all-variable-speed chiller plants where installation costs as well as energy savings will be lower.



On-The-Ground Feedback



Mark Moody, P.E., C.E.M.

GSA Region 4 Mechanical Engineer
Energy Branch, Facilities Management Division

R4 Experience

Project Goals

1. Lower central cooling plant electrical energy usage (kW/ton)
2. Improve the chilled water plant's cooling turndown capability in order to provide year-round cooling.
3. Provide greater visibility into the central plant equipment via the Building Automation System (BAS)

Goal #1 - Lower Central Plant Energy Use Intensity (EUI)

How Does Demand Flow Work?

- Optimizes temperature setpoints based on current system dynamics
- Improves chiller sequencing so as to increase chiller runtime at higher efficiencies.
- Improves cooling tower fan sequencing so as to increase cooling tower efficiencies.
- Submeter the electrical usage of all chillers, chilled water pumps, and cooling tower fans

What Are the Hardware Requirements?

- Variable Frequency Drives (VFD's) on the primary & secondary CHW pumps
- VFD's on the condenser water pumps
- VFD's on the cooling tower fans
- Temperature sensors for EACH primary CHW loop, EACH secondary CHW loop, Condenser Water loop
- Current transducers for each chiller compressor motor and pump motor

Goal #2 - Provide Year-Round Cooling

Prior to Demand Flow installation, the mechanical system could not adequately meet space setpoints during the winter.

Goal #3 - Provide Greater Visibility Via the BAS into Central Plant Operations

New BAS Points

- Primary CHW pump speed, *status and control*
- Secondary CHW pump speed, *status and control*
- Cooling tower fan speed, *status and control*
- Primary CHW pump motor kW, *status*
- Secondary CHW pump motor kW, *status*
- Cooling tower fan kW, *status*

New BAS Capability

- New trends possible with the new I/O points
- Ability to compare one chiller's efficiency in real-time to the other chillers
- Ability to monitor real-time central plant kW/ton.
- Ability to monitor real-time equipment kW for pumps and cooling tower fans

Using the New BAS Control Points and Data

Examples

- Monitor real-time equipment kW - pump motor coupling replacement
- Compare one chiller's efficiency in real time to others
- Monitor real-time central plant kW/ton

On-The-Ground Feedback



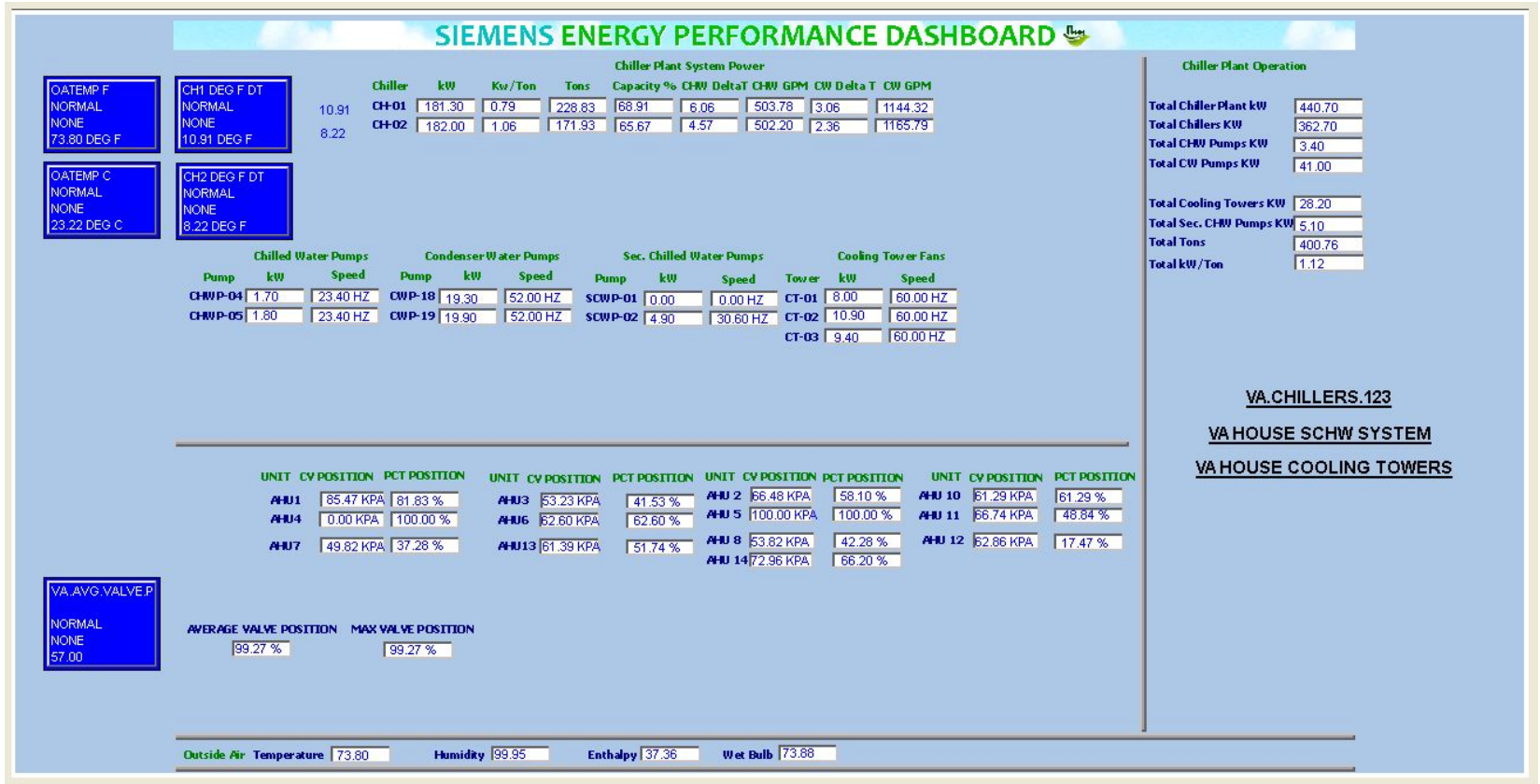
John Tegan, C.E.M.
GSA Region 3 Building Operations

R3 Experience

Engage O&M

- Have O&M buy the technology so they take ownership of it
- Get vendor to provide training and make operations transparent
- Make sure operators understand what is running the show

Veteran's Administration in Philadelphia



AVERAGE VALVE POSITION	99.27 %	MAX VALVE POSITION	99.27 %
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Outside Air Temperature	73.80	Humidity	99.95	Enthalpy	37.36	Wet Bulb	73.88
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Chiller Plant Operation

Total Chiller Plant kW	440.70
Total Chillers KW	362.70
Total CHW Pumps KW	3.40
Total CW Pumps KW	41.00
Total Cooling Towers KW	28.20
Total Sec. CHW Pumps KW	5.10
Total Tons	400.76
Total kW/Ton	1.12

VA.CHILLERS.123

VA HOUSE SCHW SYSTEM

VA HOUSE COOLING TOWERS

Q & A

Thank you!



For more information: gsa.gov/GPG

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