



## Federal Utility Partnership Working Group Fall 2011 Philadelphia, PA

# NASA Ames Saves Energy and Reduces Project Costs with Non-Invasive Retrofit Technologies

The Wireless Pneumatic Thermostat Enables Energy Efficiency  
Strategies, Ongoing Commissioning and Improved Operational Control

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# NASA Ames Reduced Project Cost by Over 80% with Non-Invasive Retrofit Technologies

- Legacy Pneumatic Thermostats

- Waste energy
- High maintenance costs
- Uncomfortable occupants
- No visibility

- Project Scope

- 14 buildings
- 1,370 pneumatic thermostats
- Integration with campus BAS
- Diagnostics for ongoing commissioning



- Traditional DDC Retrofit

- Cost over \$4.1 million
- Asbestos exposure/abatement
- Occupants significantly disrupted
- Project time: 12-18 months

- WPT Non-Invasive Retrofit

- Cost under \$850 thousand
- No asbestos exposure/abatement
- Occupants not disrupted
- Project time: 3 months

**Before**



**After**



# 70% of Buildings in North America Still Have Pneumatic Thermostats

- **Waste energy, more maintenance, unhappy occupants...**
  - No Night Setback, No Zone Control, No Optimal Start/Stop, No Occupancy Override, No Demand Response...
- **High Cost to Retrofit**
  - Market rate of \$2,000 - \$3,000 per zone for traditional DDC retrofit
- **Disruptive to Occupants**
  - Open walls and ceiling to run wires and change actuators
  - Exposure to Asbestos

Typical Legacy Pneumatic Thermostats

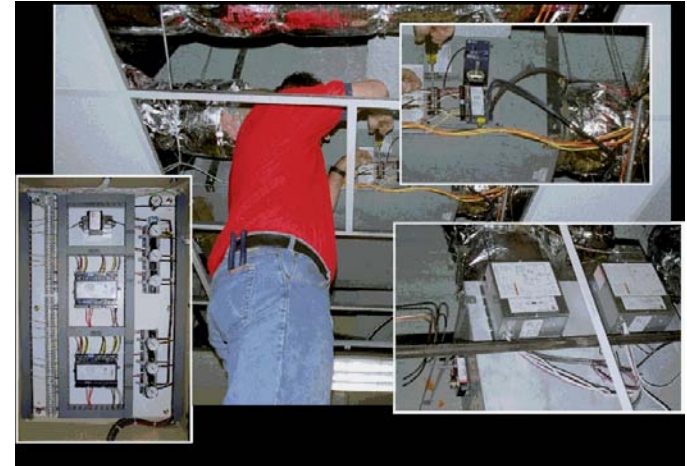


***Retrofitting Existing Buildings is a PAIN IN THE NECK!!***

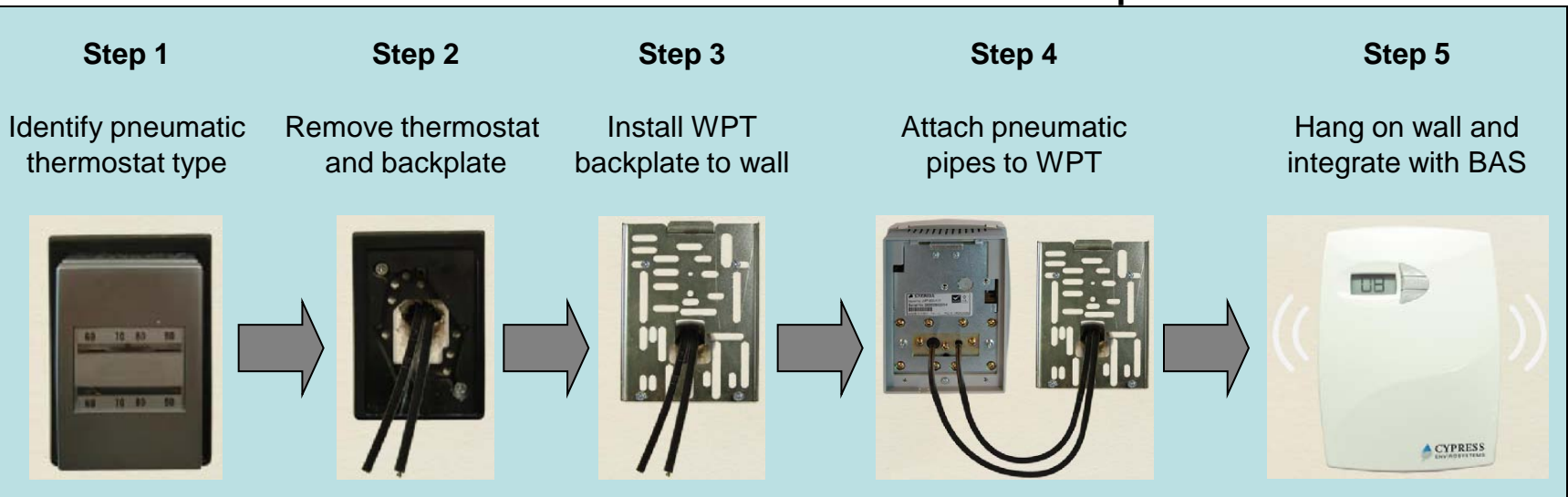
# The Wireless Pneumatic Thermostat Enables DDC Zone Control in 20 Minutes without Disrupting Occupants

- Invasive DDC retrofit
  - Opening walls and running wire drive up costs
  - Asbestos disturbance
  - Many hours or days per thermostat
  - Occupants impacted
- Non-Invasive WPT retrofit
  - Leaving walls intact and not running wire keep costs low
  - No asbestos disturbance
  - 20 minutes per thermostat
  - Occupants not impacted

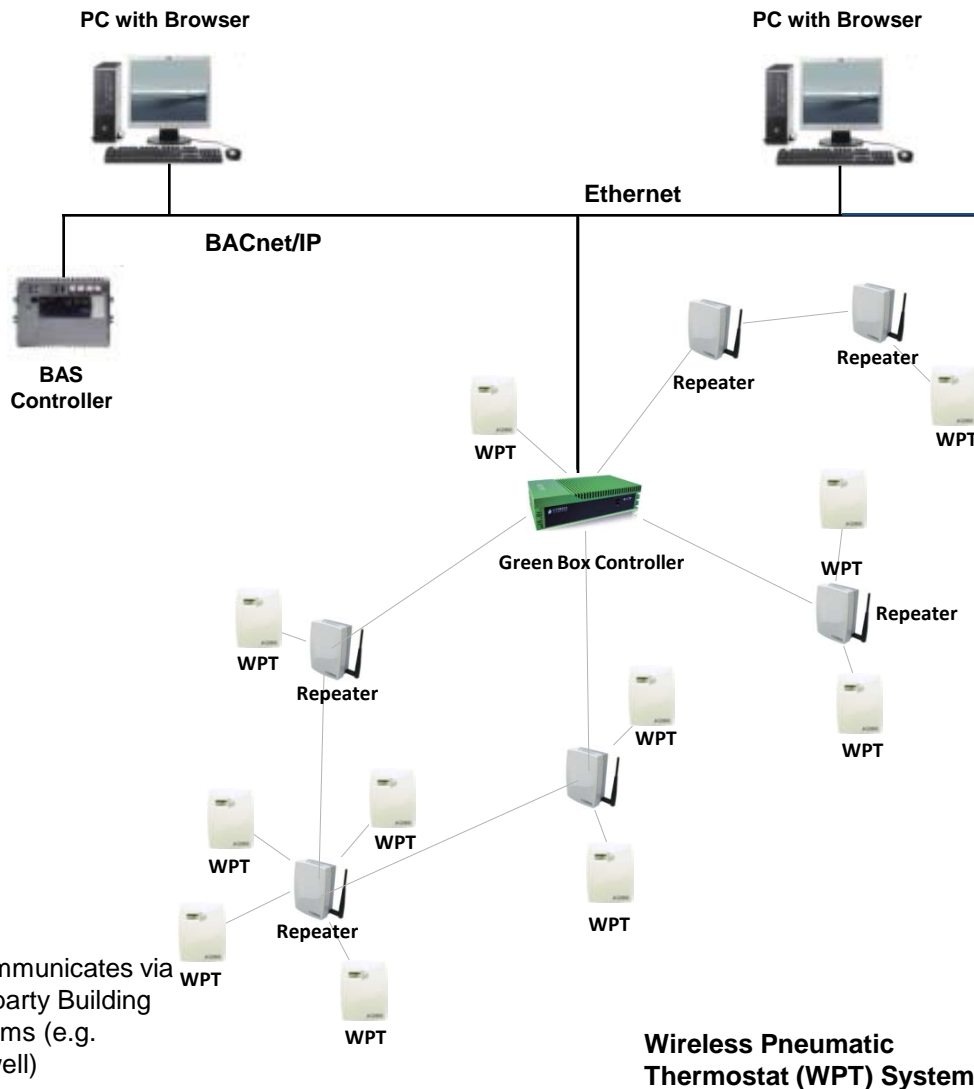
## Traditional DDC Retrofit is Invasive



## WPT Provides DDC Zone Control without Disruption



# WPTs in 14 buildings at NASA Ames Integrated with Siemens Apogee Automation System



## BACnet interface compatible with:

VENDOR	BAS
	BACtalk
	ALC
	Excel, Tridium
	Metasys
	Apogee
	Andover Continuum
	Trane Tracer Summit BCU
	ORCA

### Notes:

WPT System Communicates via BACnet/IP to 3<sup>rd</sup> party Building Automation Systems (e.g. Johnson, Honeywell)

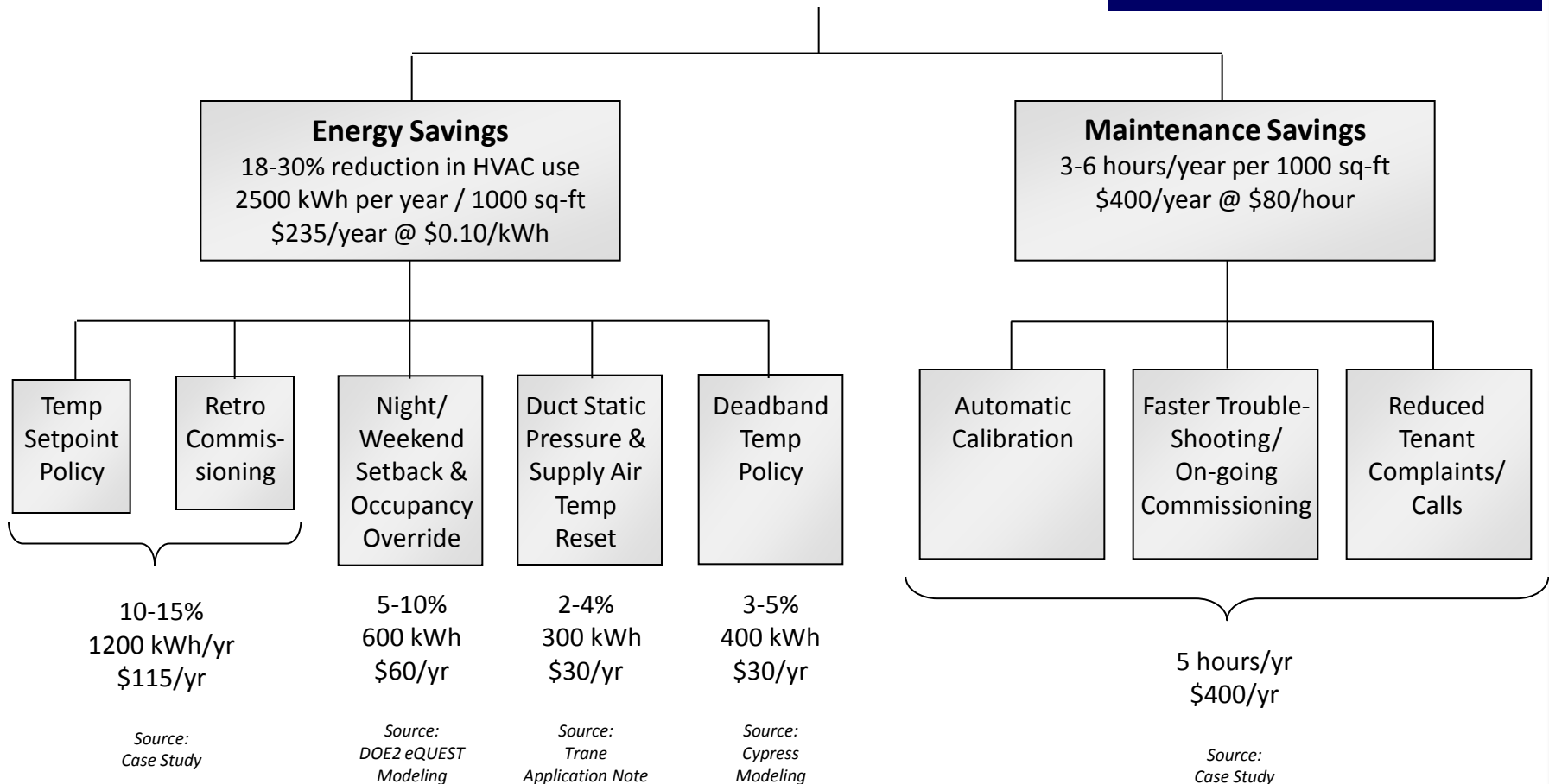
**Wireless Pneumatic Thermostat (WPT) System**

# WPT Enables the Same Energy and Maintenance Benefits as Traditional DDC

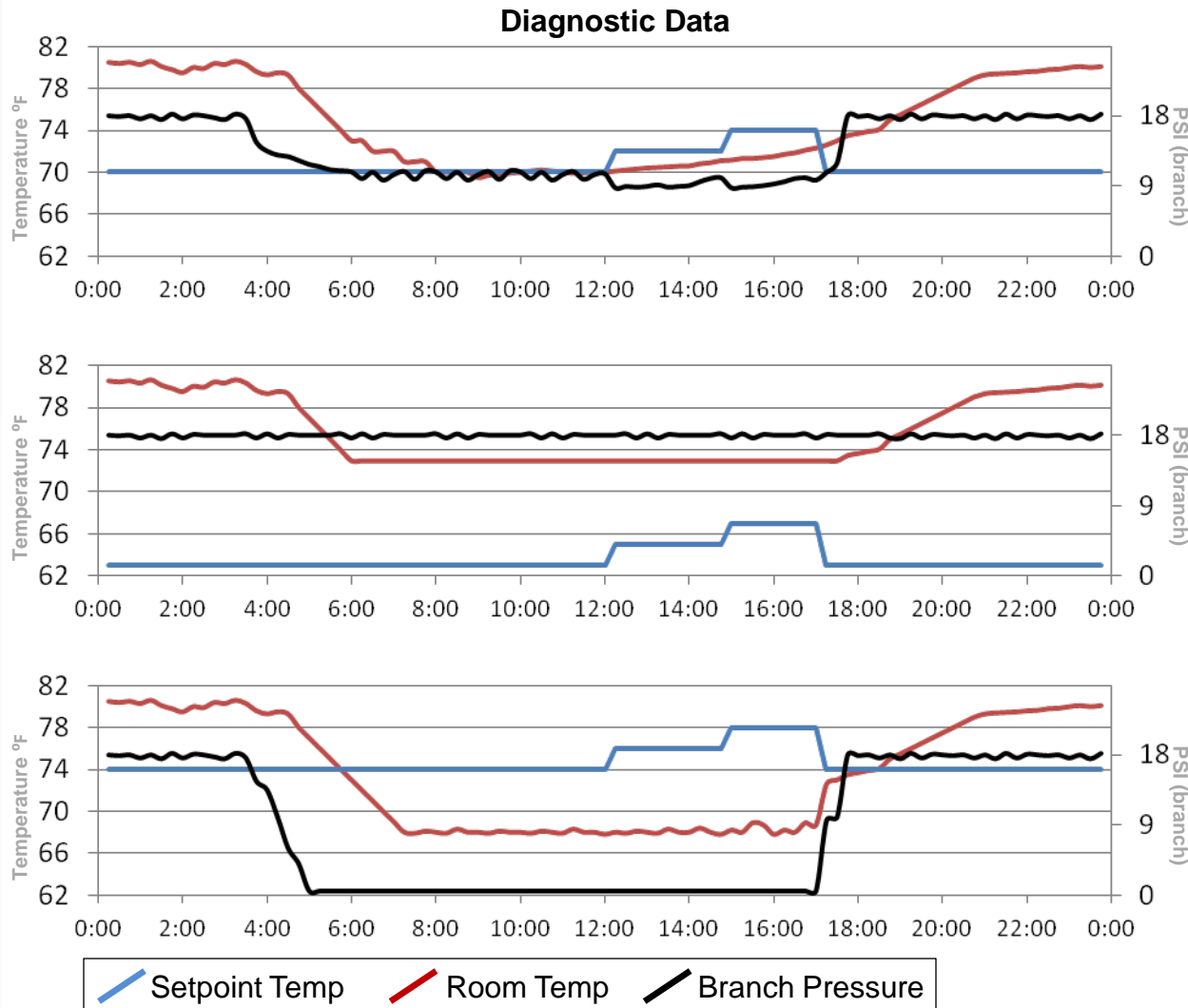
## Estimated Savings Potential




\$635/year (per 1000 sq-ft)  
 Upfront Retrofit Cost: \$600 (per 1000 sq-ft)  
 Payback Period: 11 months

*Note: All calculations based on 300,000 sq-ft retrofit project, \$0.10 per kWh electricity rate, and \$80 per hour maintenance labor rate.*



# The WPT's Diagnostic Data Enable Ongoing Commissioning to Improve Maintenance Costs and Save Energy



Alarm	Possible Faults
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faulty Reset Velocity Controller</li> <li>• Stuck damper</li> <li>• Broken spring</li> <li>• Undersized cooling capacity design</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faulty Reset Velocity Controller</li> <li>• Electric reheat and AC on</li> <li>• VAV Box Fault</li> <li>• Adjacent Zone Overcooling</li> </ul>



# Before and After Utility Data from the County of Santa Clara Quantify WPT Benefits

## County Social Services Building



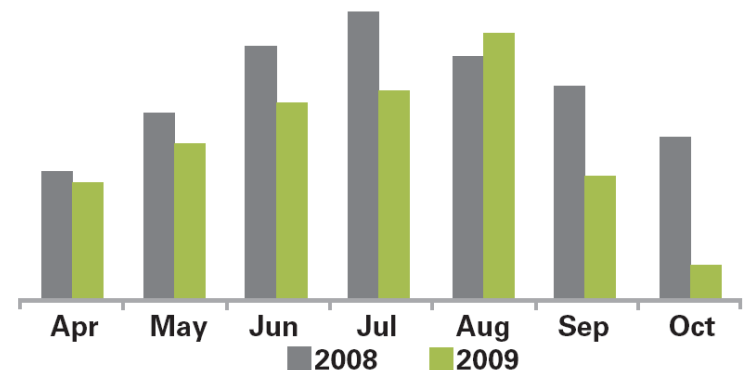
## Best DDC Bid vs. WPT

	DDC Quote	WPT Actual
Installed price	\$875,000	\$175,000
Project time	6 months	8 days
Disruption	Significant	Minimal
Toxic exposure	If present	None
PG&E ADR incentive	31%	100%

## Realized Benefits and Payback Period

- Payback period: 16 months
- Energy savings: \$42,000/year
  - 350,000 kWh per year at \$0.12/kWh
- Demand Response: \$7,500/year
  - 10,700 kWh per year at \$0.70/kWh
- Maintenance Cost Savings: \$156,000/year
  - Reduced over 50% due to diagnostic data

## Actual Year-Over-Year Utility Data



<sup>1</sup> Graph is based on actual PG&E billing data and reflects average kWh/day. The range shown is 15,000 to 20,897 kWh/day.



# Non-Invasive Retrofit Technologies Save Energy and Improve Operations in Many Applications in Various Types of Facilities

## Typical Problems



*Pneumatic  
Thermostats*



*Leaking Steam Traps*



*Dial Gauges*

## Non-Invasive Solutions



**WIRELESS PNEUMATIC THERMOSTAT**  
*"Go from Pneumatic to DDC in minutes"*



**WIRELESS STEAM TRAP MONITOR**  
*"Avoid Expensive Steam Leaks"*



**WIRELESS GAUGE READER**  
*"Remotely Read Gauges in minutes"*

## Sample of Installations

### Government

- Architect of the Capitol
- GSA
- NASA
- Social Security Administration
- State of California
- VA Hospitals

### Healthcare

- VA Hospitals
- Catholic Healthcare West
- Kaiser Permanente
- General Hospital Toronto
- Quebec Hospital
- Presbyterian

### Education

- University of Notre Dame
- UC Berkeley
- UCLA
- Stanford University
- Dartmouth College
- Western Michigan University

### Corporate

- Google
- Genentech
- InBev
- Texas Instruments
- Wells Fargo
- Fairmont Hotel

### Commercial Real Estate

- Cushman & Wakefield
- Vornado
- Equity Office
- Shorenstein