



Auburn University  
*Utilities & Energy Group*  
*Auburn University Facilities Management*

January 14, 2013

Mike Kensler, Director  
Office of Sustainability  
Auburn University  
200 Langdon Annex

Dear Mike,

The Utilities & Energy Department within Facilities Management partnered with Alabama Gas Company (Alagasco) to install 2 Hawk ICS controllers on our central plant boilers. One controller was installed at Hot Water Plant 1 and the second controller was installed at Hot Water Plant 3, which is located in our District Energy Plant. These 2 hot water plants serve the main campus hot water loop. Two boilers carry the hot water load for the main campus for the majority of the year.

The Hawk ICS is a control device that automatically trims the boiler in order to maintain a high efficiency no matter how the campus hot water load fluctuates. It balances the fuel to air ratio for optimum combustion efficiency. Our boilers before the retrofit had mechanical linkages that were set up and tuned at startup in order to have the boilers operate as efficiently as possible. This was a good start but did not account for the load swings.

Since the installation of the Hawk ICS system, the efficiency of the boilers has increased from approximately 82% to 87%. That level is maintained throughout the year. The result is a substantial savings in fuel cost as well as a reduction in emissions from these boilers. This has been a project that we would like to replicate to our Vet School campus in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Martin  
Energy Engineer  
Auburn University Facilities Management

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