

VENSTAR®



Venstar Case Studies for Schools

Transform Your School's Energy Management with Venstar Thermostats and Skyport Cloud.



Comfortable temperatures help students improve concentration, reduce distractions, and increase overall productivity.

Introduction

Transform Your School's Energy Management with
Venstar Thermostats and Skyport Cloud.

Comfortable temperatures help students improve concentration,
reduce distractions, and increase overall productivity.

Maintaining optimal temperature comfort in classrooms is crucial for enhancing students' learning experiences. Comfortable temperatures help improve concentration, reduce distractions, and increase overall productivity. When students aren't preoccupied with feeling too hot or cold, they're better able to focus on lessons and retain information. Studies have shown that a well-regulated classroom climate can lead to improved cognitive function and academic performance. By ensuring a comfortable environment with Venstar Smart thermostats, schools can create an atmosphere conducive to learning, allowing students to thrive academically.

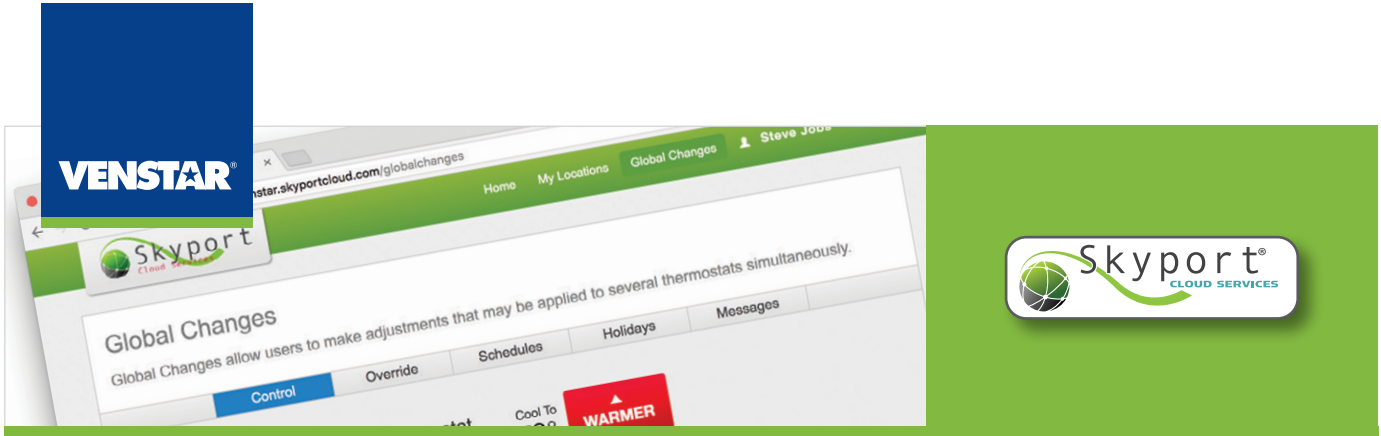
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Indoor Environmental Services

“Using Venstar’s Skyport to make global changes to thermostats is epic. It saves us hundreds of on-site hours. We couldn’t live without it.”

– *Rebecca Gladden, energy engineer*
Indoor Environmental Services



School Districts Save More Than 20 Percent in Energy Costs Thanks to Venstar and Indoor Environment Services

PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Saves school districts more than 20 percent in energy costs
- Offers effective alternative to costly energy management systems
- Includes remote Global Changes via Skyport to reduce on-site visits
- Controls thermostats remotely using Skyport Web browser or free mobile app

CHALLENGE:

Find Easy-to-Use, Affordable Thermostat to Reduce Energy Costs

Matt Spence, director of Energy for California-based Indoor Environmental Services (IES), is responsible for selecting energy management solutions and thermostats for school districts. Managing thousands of thermostats at more than 50 school districts, Spence wanted to remotely monitor, control and make global changes across all the thermostats via the district's Wi-Fi® network and also be alerted via email of any HVAC-related issues. He also wanted a thermostat that meets California's stringent Title 24 requirements.

Most of the school districts had basic, non-programmable thermostats, some of which ran the HVAC equipment 24 hours per day, seven days per week with no ability to program weekends or holidays. Anyone could change the temperatures locally on the old thermostats. Not being able to control the energy usage of the old thermostats resulted in unnecessarily high utility bills for the districts.

SOLUTION:

Venstar's Commercial ColorTouch Wi-Fi Thermostat

Spence chose Venstar's commercial ColorTouch® (Model T8850) Wi-Fi connected thermostat as his "thermostat of choice" for school districts, installing 5,600 ColorTouch thermostats at more than 50 school districts while planning installation for more. He selected ColorTouch for its easy-to-use touchscreen. Rebecca Gladden, energy engineer at IES, appreciates its advanced programming capabilities, including morning warm-up and the override feature for after-hours comfort, which makes it perfect for school classrooms.

Gladden's favorite feature is the ability to remotely program and manage the ColorTouch thermostats across all of the schools. Once the thermostats are programmed, the IES team uses Venstar's Skyport® Cloud Services to remotely access and control the ColorTouch thermostats at any of the school districts using Venstar's free Skyport Mobile App.



About ColorTouch

Award-winning ColorTouch, smart thermostats offer 365-day programming, overrides and security features. Available in six models for residential and commercial use.

Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services enables users to instantly access and control multiple thermostats at numerous locations with the free Skyport Mobile App on their mobile devices or directly from the Web.

Using Skyport, the IES team can instantly make global changes to some or all the thermostats rather than physically spending 10 minutes at each thermostat making programming changes.

The schools' maintenance managers have remote access so they can handle any issues, such as if there are complaints that a classroom is too warm or too cold. The IES team also has remote access to monitor the thermostats.

ColorTouch's override features are essential for classrooms. The override feature lets teachers push a button to keep the system working after hours, such as during parent-teacher conferences and open houses.

On days when school is not in session, the thermostats are set to the unoccupied temperatures. Being able to program the thermostats for 365 days per year helps to ensure that HVAC systems are not running unnecessarily. ColorTouch also has an automatic time change for daylight savings time.

The IES team appreciates ColorTouch's security features, including setpoint limiting. With setpoint limiting, teachers have some flexibility of temperature control within the districts' limits. This helps keep classrooms comfortable while ensuring that the schools' energy management goals are met.

RESULTS:

Reduced Energy Costs by More than 20 Percent While Maintaining Indoor Comfort

To date, IES has installed 5,600 Venstar ColorTouch thermostats at more than 50 school districts in California, with more to come. Installing the ColorTouch thermostats has helped the districts reduce energy costs more than 20 percent.

The ColorTouch thermostats help ensure consistent, comfortable temperatures in all buildings at the school districts, no matter how hot or cold the temperature is outside. Plus, they meet California's stringent Title 24 requirements.

Skyport Cloud Services provide remote access to the thermostats so the IES team can easily access, monitor and program the thermostats from virtually anywhere there's Internet access, including their mobile devices. Using Skyport, the IES team can instantly make global changes to all the thermostats. This saves hundreds of on-site hours.

The thermostats also help to extend the life of the HVAC equipment at the schools and allow the IES team to solve issues before they become real problems. With all these benefits, ColorTouch is IES's thermostat of choice for school districts.

About Indoor Environmental Services (IES)

In business since 1988, California-based Indoor Environmental Services (IES) provides HVAC services to commercial and industrial customers throughout California and Nevada. The company specializes in energy management services for school districts, including solar energy, HVAC services and energy management solutions.



Rebecca Gladden, energy engineer at IES

“Using Venstar’s Skyport to make global changes to thermostats is epic. It saves us hundreds of on-site hours. We couldn’t live without it.”

*– Rebecca Gladden, energy engineer
Indoor Environmental Services*

About Venstar

Founded in 1992, Venstar Inc. is a leading thermostat and energy management system (EMS) manufacturer, known for providing value to its customers via ease of use and installation, proven cost savings, improved energy efficiency, quality and reliability. Venstar is one of the largest thermostat suppliers in the world and designs and produces Venstar-branded products, as well as OEM thermostat products for the biggest names in HVAC. Venstar's Surveyor is a leading energy management system, typically saving small-box retailers 25-35 percent of their energy costs, which translates to tens of millions of dollars in savings each year and dramatic reductions in CO₂ emissions. Surveyor currently controls the energy usage of 30,000+ retail locations across the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Mexico.

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Berkeley Hall School

“Venstar’s Skyport is an affordable alternative to large, expensive energy management systems for smaller organizations, including our school.”

– *Chet Galland, Director of Facilities
Berkeley Hall School*



VENSTAR'S SKYPORT CLOUD SERVICES PROVIDES HVAC CONTROL TO SCHOOL

CHALLENGE:

Remotely Manage HVAC Systems and More

Chet Galland is the director of Facilities at the Berkeley Hall School, a prestigious 100+ year-old pre-K through grade 8 independent school in Los Angeles. Galland is responsible for the management and maintenance of campus facilities encompassing 80,000 square feet of buildings across 66 acres.

Galland wanted to find thermostats that could be remotely managed using a system that gives him remote control of the school's HVAC units. His goal was to manage and reduce energy usage and costs from his desktop computer or iPad. He also wanted to be able to remotely control and set timers for the schools' circulating pumps to ensure indoor comfort while managing energy usage during off schedule events.

SOLUTION:

Venstar Skyport Cloud Services

Galland chose Venstar's ColorTouch® and Explorer® Mini thermostats, which are managed by Venstar's free Skyport® Cloud Services and mobile app.

Features include:

- Remote control of HVAC via Skyport website or mobile device
- Ability to set timers to turn on/off the hydronic circulating pump system
- Utilization of Skyport as a remote timer switch for exterior lighting
- Global changes feature across the entire system
- Setpoint limiting to reduce tampering with thermostats



About Skyport

Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services allow users of Venstar's Wi-Fi® thermostats to use Venstar's free Skyport Mobile App on their Apple iOS® and Android™ mobile devices or directly from the Web to instantly access and control multiple thermostats at numerous locations.

About ColorTouch

ColorTouch Commercial models offer 365-day programming or can be used as nonprogrammable thermostats. They include security features and setpoint limiting. ColorTouch can remotely control, monitor or average temperatures with the remote sensor.



Skyport also works with Explorer Mini

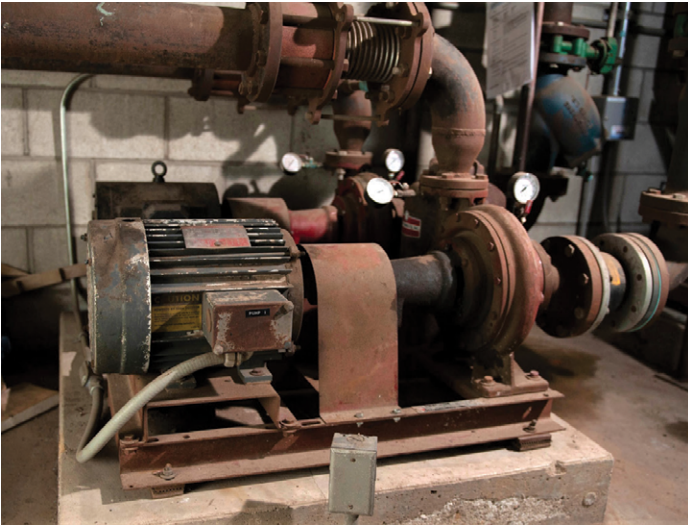
“With Venstar’s Skyport, I can manage the HVAC, lighting and more from my desk or iPad without the need to dispatch anyone.”

– Chet Galland, Director of Facilities, Berkeley Hall School

RESULTS:

Greater Control of HVAC Units and Related Systems

Venstar's Skyport Cloud Services provides control of HVAC units and related systems, including the school's hydronic circulating pump system to help ensure indoor comfort.



Berkeley Hall's hydronic circulating pump

Results include:

- Flexibility to control HVAC at individual buildings or areas
- Remote control of the school's thermostats
- Capability to nest schedules within the overall schedule
- Ability to program fans based on occupied/unoccupied status
- Global changes to save time versus manual changes
- Global messaging to classrooms for announcements and reminders
- Timer control of the hydronic circulating pump system
- Ability to control and set on/off schedule for exterior lighting

Future uses include scheduling timers for exhaust fans, outdoor lighting and even security for perimeter door lockdown.

About Berkeley Hall School

Located in Los Angeles, Berkeley Hall School is a private, co-educational school for students in preschool through grade 8. Rigorous academics in a supportive atmosphere and grounded character development allow students to become fearless scholars and conscientious citizens as well as gain a love of learning, leadership, social responsibility and creativity with moral integrity, self-esteem and compassion for others and the environment.



Chet Galland, Director of Facilities, Berkeley Hall School

“Venstar’s Skyport is an affordable alternative to large, expensive energy management systems for smaller organizations, including our school.”

*– Chet Galland, Director of Facilities
Berkeley Hall School*

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Simpson University

“Venstar’s ColorTouch with Skyport allows me to ensure that our buildings are comfortable and alerts me to potential HVAC system issues. I appreciate that it empowers me to use my iPhone to make changes to the thermostats from virtually anywhere, allowing me to fix temperature issues very quickly — like magic.”

– Rodney Hauptman, HVAC Specialist
Simpson University



SIMPSON UNIVERSITY CLASSROOM TEMPERATURES ARE COMFORTABLE, THANKS TO VENSTAR'S COLORTOUCH THERMOSTAT WITH SKYPORT

CHALLENGE:

Remotely monitor HVAC performance in classrooms and auditoriums

Rodney Hauptman has worked as Simpson University's HVAC specialist for more than 15 years. A licensed HVAC contractor for 30 years, Hauptman is responsible for keeping the university's classrooms, auditorium and other buildings comfortable in summer temperatures exceeding 100 degrees and chilly winter nights dipping below 40 degrees. With 310 HVAC systems on campus, Hauptman is often found running between buildings, ensuring the indoor comfort of students, faculty and visitors.

With today's mobile technological advancements, Hauptman knew there must be a way to remotely access and control on-campus thermostats. He wanted to be able to remotely change temperature settings and check on supply air temperatures coming from HVAC equipment to ensure temperature comfort of the occupied buildings on campus. He turned to Venstar's ColorTouch® commercial touchscreen, programmable thermostat with free Skyport™ Cloud Services.

SOLUTION:

Venstar's ColorTouch thermostat with Skyport Wi-Fi Services

Using Venstar's ColorTouch commercial thermostat with free Skyport Cloud Services, Hauptman can use his iPhone® to remotely access and control ColorTouch thermostats anywhere on campus. Whether he's at home, across campus or traveling, he can quickly and easily access the ColorTouch thermostats via the school's secure Wi-Fi® network or virtually anywhere he has Internet access. He can check to see why one part of a room is cool and the other is warm, simply by using his iPhone to access the thermostats and determine the supply air temperature.

With room schedules that regularly change and include rentals for extracurricular activities, Hauptman has devised a smart way of ensuring the comfort of everyone who will be in campus buildings by creating a spreadsheet of the schedule of all activities on campus. He checks the rooms to ensure that the heat or air conditioning is working in advance of the rooms being used so that everyone will be comfortable. He also has the thermostats programmed with setpoint limiting, giving room occupants some flexibility of temperature within reasonable limits. They can change the room temperature by 2-4 degrees without a passcode, allowing them to set their own comfortable temperatures while maintaining the security of the thermostats. Since the keypads remain locked, no other changes can be made.

Using ColorTouch with Skyport has also helped Hauptman diagnose problems with his HVAC systems. He said that on a number of occasions, he was able to tell when there was an HVAC system problem by using Skyport to access the thermostats and check on the



About

ColorTouch

Venstar offers six models of its award-winning ColorTouch smart programmable residential and commercial thermostats. Top-ranked by Consumer Reports, all six ColorTouch models have a multi-functional, simple-to-use touchscreen, which can be programmed to display a picture gallery of up to 100 files to be used as a digital picture frame when not in thermostat display.

ColorTouch thermostats are compatible with Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services, which allows both commercial and residential users to use Venstar's free Skyport mobile app on their Apple iOS®, Android®, and BlackBerry® mobile devices or directly from the Web to instantly access and control multiple thermostats at numerous locations.

supply air temperatures. In one case, only half of an auditorium was cooling appropriately. He was able to quickly identify the problem (a simple freon leak) and fix it before the room was occupied. On another occasion, it was 108 degrees outside, and even with two 2-stage units and two compressors, the large meeting room was not being cooled adequately. With the thermostats, he identified that one of the systems was only running on the first stage, and he was able to have it fixed right away. Without ColorTouch thermostats and Skyport, he said he probably would not have even been aware of this problem and would likely have had a very unhappy client.

In addition, in case of an emergency, Hauptman or campus security personnel can send text message alerts to every ColorTouch thermostat, letting students and faculty know to lock the doors and stay inside until the emergency has passed.

Results:

ColorTouch helps keep Simpson University comfortable year round

Venstar's ColorTouch with free Skyport Cloud Services helps ensure consistent, comfortable temperatures in buildings at Simpson University, no matter how hot or cold it is outside. Supply air sensors report the temperature of the air coming out of the HVAC equipment, so it's easy for Hauptman to determine when there is a real problem and have it fixed quickly. Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services provide remote access to the thermostats so he can easily access, monitor and program the thermostats from virtually anywhere there's Internet access.

Hauptman said, "Venstar's ColorTouch with Skyport allows me to ensure that our buildings are comfortable and alerts me to potential HVAC system issues. I appreciate that it empowers me to use my iPhone to make changes to the thermostats from virtually anywhere, allowing me to fix temperature issues very quickly — like magic."

About Simpson University

Simpson University (www.simpsonu.edu) is a private, Christian university with more than 1,300 students, offering undergraduate, graduate and teaching credential programs. Based in Redding, Calif., its mission is to develop each student in mind, faith and character for a lifetime of meaningful service. Simpson's programs include master's degrees in counseling psychology and organizational leadership as well as degrees in biology and nursing.



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Rodney Hauptman, Simpson University's HVAC specialist for more than 15 years

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Imperial Unified School District

“Venstar’s ColorTouch with Skyport is the Ferrari of thermostats, and we have the key to ensure a smooth-running yet powerful experience.”

– *Brandon Machado, Maintenance
Imperial Unified School District*



IMPERIAL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT USES SKYPORT'S GLOBAL CHANGES TO MANAGE ENERGY USE THANKS TO VENSTAR'S COLORTOUCH THERMOSTATS

CHALLENGE:

Remotely Control HVAC Performance in Classrooms and Auditoriums

Brandon Machado is responsible for maintenance utilities and HVAC for Imperial Unified School District. Located in Southern California near the Arizona and Mexico borders, Imperial City has temperatures that range from below freezing on winter nights to more than 120 degrees on hot summer days, making efficient HVAC essential. With more than 340+ thermostats across six campuses, Machado wanted to be able to remotely monitor, control and make global changes across all the thermostats via the district network and also be alerted remotely of any HVAC issues.

SOLUTION:

Venstar's ColorTouch Thermostat With Skyport Wi-Fi Services

Venstar's ColorTouch® commercial thermostats allow Machado to use his mobile phone or desktop computer to remotely access and control the ColorTouch thermostats anywhere on the district's six campuses. Whether he's in his office, at home or traveling, he can quickly and easily access the ColorTouch thermostats using Venstar's free Skyport™ Mobile App via the on-campus Wi-Fi® networks or virtually anywhere there is Internet access.

Machado relies on Skyport's global changes feature, which allows him to make the same change to all the thermostats on the network. At the beginning of the school year, he checks to make sure the system run times are appropriate and updates all the holidays and school vacation days. On days when school is not in session, the thermostats are set to the unoccupied setting. Being able to program the thermostats for 365 days per year helps to ensure that HVAC systems are not running unnecessarily. ColorTouch also has an automatic time change for daylight savings time.

In addition to managing room temperatures, Machado also uses Skyport to monitor the temperatures of all the walk-in freezers in the cafeterias at each of the campuses. If the temperatures vary outside of the setpoints, he is automatically notified so he can quickly take care of the issue.

The classroom thermostats are programmed with setpoint limiting, giving occupants some flexibility of temperature within reasonable limits. They can change the room temperature by a few degrees without a passcode, allowing them to set their own comfortable temperatures while maintaining the security of the thermostats. Since the keypads remain locked, no other changes can be made. If there are complaints about classrooms being too hot or too cold, Machado can use Venstar's free Skyport Mobile



About

ColorTouch

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ColorTouch thermostats are compatible with Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services, which allow both commercial and residential users to use Venstar's free Skyport Mobile

App on their Apple iOS® and Android™ mobile devices or directly from the Web to instantly access and control multiple thermostats at numerous locations.



App to check the room temperatures, allowing him to respond quickly to any potential problems.

The free Skyport Mobile App also allows Machado to send text messages directly to the thermostats, which display the messages right on the color touchscreen. He uses the messaging feature to send text messages to teachers to let them know when the HVAC equipment is being serviced.

Before the ColorTouch thermostats were installed, the schools had non-programmable thermostats, and anyone could change the temperature. During hot days, they were frequently turned down to 60 degrees, which ran up energy costs and could even damage the HVAC system. It was also time consuming for Machado and his team to manually program each thermostat, which took days.

The school district also uses Venstar's remote-mounted temperature sensors in school gyms and some cafeterias where thermostats are located in separate rooms. According to Machado, the remote sensor sends notifications whenever the temperatures are out of tolerance, allowing him accurate readings to help ensure comfortable environments.

RESULTS:

Comfortable Environments, Energy Savings

Venstar's ColorTouch with free Skyport Cloud Services helps ensure consistent, comfortable temperatures in all buildings at the Imperial Unified School District campuses, no matter how hot or cold it is outside. Skyport Cloud Services provide remote access to the thermostats so Machado can easily access, monitor and program the thermostats from virtually anywhere there's Internet access, including his mobile phone.

Using Skyport's global changes feature saves Machado and his team days' worth of work. Because all of the changes can be done for all 340+ thermostats at the same time from a computer or mobile device, there's no need for them to visit each of the thermostats to make programming changes.

Since the ColorTouch thermostats were installed, the district has enjoyed a significant savings on its energy costs. The thermostats are also helping to extend the life of the HVAC equipment at the schools since notifications are sent whenever the temperatures are outside of the setpoint limits, allowing Machado and his team to solve issues before they become real problems.

About Imperial Unified School District

Imperial Unified School District is committed to maximizing each student's potential to learn so they graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve significant educational, civic, and personal goals to enrich society. The district encompasses six campuses in the City of Imperial, California.



“Venstar’s ColorTouch with Skyport is the Ferrari of thermostats, and we have the key to ensure a smooth-running yet powerful experience.”

*– Brandon Machado, Maintenance
Imperial Unified School District*

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Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District

“It’s amazing that I can control all of the school district’s thermostats from my mobile phone using Venstar’s free Skyport Mobile App. It even alerts me if there is a problem, so I can solve it immediately.”

– Lowell Hill, director of maintenance
Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District (ISD)



Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District Keeps Classrooms Comfortable, Thanks to Venstar's Explorer SchoolStat Wi-Fi Thermostats

SUCCESS HIGHLIGHTS:

- Reduces energy costs by replacing existing energy management system
- Extends the life of the HVAC equipment with Skyport notifications
- Controls the district's thermostats using Venstar's Skyport Mobile App
- Commissions thermostats to the Skyport network in under a minute
- Issues sub-accounts for individualized access for specific campuses

CHALLENGE:

Update School Thermostats, Replace Energy Management System

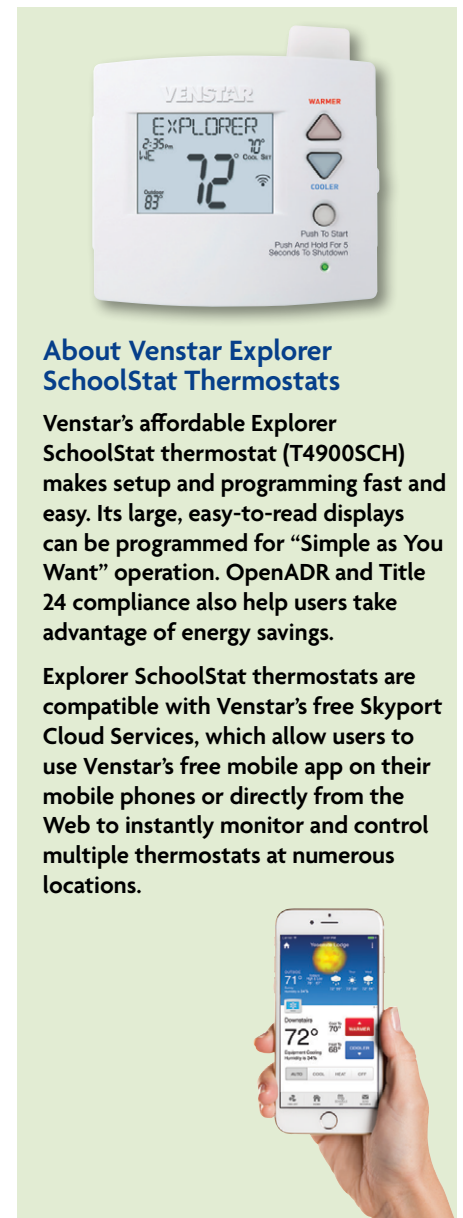
Lowell Hill is the director of maintenance for the Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District (ISD) located in rural Texas near Waco. He is responsible for the HVAC management for the district's five campuses. With temperatures ranging from lows in the teens to highs well over 100 degrees, having an efficient and reliable HVAC system is essential. Hill wanted to install new thermostats he could depend on to keep students, teachers and staff comfortable regardless of the weather outside. He wanted to help reduce costs by replacing a complicated energy management system with connected thermostats and also wanted to be able to quickly and easily install, commission and remotely manage the thermostats.

SOLUTION:

Venstar's Explorer SchoolStat Connected Wi-Fi Thermostats

With Venstar's Explorer® SchoolStat connected Wi-Fi® thermostats, Hill can easily commission thermostats in less than a minute. Installation is easy, too. He appreciates the ability to make the Explorer thermostats as feature-rich or as simple as needed, depending on the location and usage. In addition, according to Hill, Venstar's factory settings are very close to what they want, so it makes commissioning the thermostats extra fast.

Using Venstar's free Skyport® Cloud Services with its free mobile app, Hill can use his mobile phone or desktop computer to remotely access and control the Explorer thermostats anywhere in the school district. With this free capability, he was able to eliminate the expensive energy management system that he found to be hard to use and too complicated to use effectively. With Skyport, he can instantly monitor and control the Explorer thermostats via the on-campus Wi-Fi networks or virtually anywhere there is Internet access.



About Venstar Explorer SchoolStat Thermostats

Venstar's affordable Explorer SchoolStat thermostat (T4900SCH) makes setup and programming fast and easy. Its large, easy-to-read displays can be programmed for "Simple as You Want" operation. OpenADR and Title 24 compliance also help users take advantage of energy savings.

Explorer SchoolStat thermostats are compatible with Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services, which allow users to use Venstar's free mobile app on their mobile phones or directly from the Web to instantly monitor and control multiple thermostats at numerous locations.

Being able to program the thermostats helps Hill ensure that HVAC systems are not running unnecessarily. Teachers simply push a button when they arrive in the classroom to turn on the heating or cooling, which is programmed to run from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. Teachers also have the ability to extend the heating or cooling by up to four more hours by simply pressing the Override button. Each press of the Override button provides 30 additional minutes of Occupied setpoints. This ensures that the classrooms are heated or cooled only while they are occupied, helping to reduce unnecessary energy use. On days when school is not in session, the thermostats are set to the unoccupied setting. Explorer also has an automatic time change for daylight savings time, eliminating the need for Hill to physically change each thermostat twice each year.

The classroom thermostats are programmed with setpoint limiting. They are set to a high of 72 for heat and a low of 74 to cool, allowing teachers the flexibility to adjust the temperature within a couple of degrees. Since the keypads are locked and locking rings are in place, no other changes can be made. If there are complaints about classrooms being too hot or too cold, Hill can remotely use Venstar's Skyport Cloud Services to check the temperatures, allowing him to respond quickly to any potential problems.

RESULTS:

Comfortable Environments, Cost Savings

Venstar's Explorer SchoolStat thermostats with free Skyport Cloud Services helps ensure consistent, comfortable temperatures in all buildings at the Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District, no matter how hot or cold it is outside. Skyport Cloud Services gives Hill remote access to the thermostats so he can easily monitor and control the thermostats using his mobile phone or desktop computer from virtually anywhere there's Internet access. Hill is also able to set up sub-user accounts in Skyport, enabling individual principals to have access to the HVAC information for just their campuses.

Since the Explorer SchoolStat thermostats were installed, the school district has reduced its hard costs by replacing the energy management system with thermostats. It estimates that the thermostats pay for themselves in energy savings within six months. The thermostats are also helping to extend the life of the HVAC equipment at the schools since notifications are immediately sent to the maintenance director whenever the temperatures are outside preset limits, allowing Hill to solve issues before they become real problems.

About Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District

The Bruceville-Eddy Independent School District is located in a rural, agricultural-based community between the Texas cities of Waco and Temple, providing K-12 schools for the small towns of Bruceville and Eddy. Founded in 1930, the school district is devoted to providing learning experiences and accomplishments for its students. The district encompasses five campuses across 55 acres.



“It’s amazing that I can control all of the school district’s thermostats from my mobile phone using Venstar’s free Skyport Mobile App. It even alerts me if there is a problem, so I can solve it immediately.”

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Conejo Valley School District

“Venstar’s SchoolStats have greatly contributed to reducing energy usage for our school district and have made it easier than ever for our teachers to have comfortable classrooms and for our maintenance team to reduce the time it takes to manage the thermostats. We are very happy with our SchoolStats.”

– Rick Freed, Energy Manager/Educator
Conejo Valley School District



VENSTAR'S SCHOOLSTAT THERMOSTATS HELP CONEJO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SAVE MORE THAN 40 PERCENT IN ENERGY COSTS

CHALLENGE:

Reduce and Control Energy Usage at 30 School District Sites

Located in Southern California just north of Los Angeles, the Conejo Valley has temperatures that range from freezing in the winter to more than 100 degrees in the summer. The school district has hundreds of thermostats across 30 sites, which include school campuses, offices and warehouses. Rick Freed, the Energy Manager/Educator for the Conejo Valley Unified School District, wanted to be able to remotely monitor, control and make global changes across the thermostats with the ultimate objective of reducing energy usage and costs.

SOLUTION:

Venstar's Explorer T4900SCH SchoolStat With Free Skyport Wi-Fi Services

With Venstar's Explorer T4900SCH SchoolStat® thermostats, Freed uses his mobile phone, tablet or desktop computer to remotely access and control the thermostats anywhere across the district's 30 campuses. Whether he's in his office, at home or traveling, he can quickly and easily access and control the thermostats using Venstar's free Skyport™ Mobile App virtually anywhere there is Internet access.

Freed appreciates the ability to remotely put the Wi-Fi-enabled SchoolStats into the unoccupied mode during summer and winter breaks using the Skyport Mobile App and to put them back into occupied mode for the school year. Previously, with the district's older thermostats that were not Wi-Fi-enabled, the maintenance team had to manually turn off each thermostat. Freed estimates it took three maintenance workers up to four days to turn the thermostats on or off.

He credits the SchoolStats with saving a considerable amount of energy with a simple "push to start" button. To enable heating or cooling, teachers must use the "push to start" button when they need it. For most of the year, the classrooms do not need to be heated or cooled in the mornings, so there is a considerable reduction in energy usage over the previous thermostats that were set to run the HVAC equipment during school hours. Now, heating and cooling is only used when needed.

The classroom thermostats are also pre-programmed with setpoint limits, giving teachers some flexibility of temperature within reasonable limits. Freed has the setpoints programmed to give teachers four degrees up or down in heating or cooling. Teachers can adjust the thermostats within those setpoint limits, allowing them to set their own comfortable temperatures while maintaining the security of the thermostats.



About Venstar SchoolStat Thermostats

Venstar's SchoolStat thermostat is designed specifically for classroom and other on-campus uses. It features energy-saving operation including unoccupied-until-button-press feature, programmable override, setpoint-limiting security and separate weekend/weekday programmability. When combined with Venstar's free Skyport Cloud Services and Skyport Mobile App, energy managers can use their Apple iOS® or Android™ mobile devices or access Skyport directly from the Web to instantly access and control multiple Wi-Fi thermostats at numerous locations. Compatible with virtually any type of HVAC equipment, Venstar's SchoolStat combines energy savings with classroom comfort, giving energy managers and teachers an easy-to-use solution that saves time and effort.



If there are complaints about classrooms being too hot or too cold, Freed can use Venstar's Skyport website to check the actual room temperatures, allowing him to respond quickly to any potential problems.

RESULTS:

40 Percent Reduction in Energy Costs

In one year, the school district saved 40 percent on its energy costs, a significant portion of which Freed attributes to Venstar SchoolStats. According to Freed, the savings are expected to increase dramatically as the district continues to expand its use of Wi-Fi-enabled SchoolStats and other energy-saving efforts.

Using Skyport's global changes feature saves Freed and the maintenance team days' worth of work. Freed uses Skyport's global changes to ensure uniform schedule programming across the school district's 30 locations. Because Freed can make global changes to all of the Wi-Fi-enabled thermostats at the same time from his computer, there's no need for changes to be made at individual thermostats.

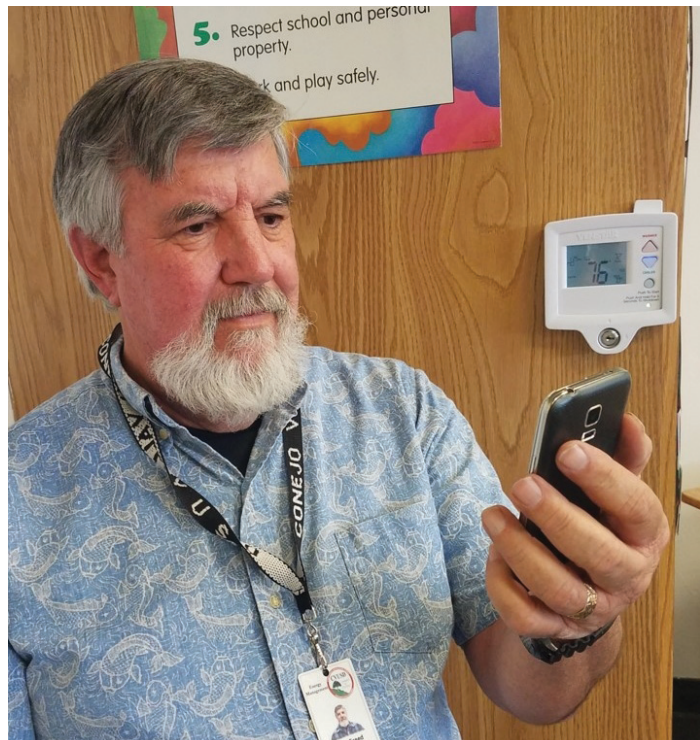
Venstar's thermostats with Skyport Cloud Services help ensure consistent, comfortable temperatures at the Conejo Valley Unified School District campuses, offices and warehouses, no matter how hot or cold it is outside. Skyport provides remote access to the thermostats so Freed can easily access, monitor and program the thermostats from virtually anywhere there's Internet access.

About Conejo Valley Unified School District

Conejo Unified School District is the K–12 school district serving Thousand Oaks, Newbury Park and Westlake Village. It encompasses more than 30 sites, including campuses, offices and warehouses.

About Venstar

Founded in 1992, Venstar Inc. is a leading thermostat and energy management system (EMS) manufacturer, known for providing value to its customers via ease of use and installation, proven cost savings, improved energy efficiency, quality and reliability. Venstar is one of the largest thermostat suppliers in the world and designs and produces Venstar-branded products, as well as OEM thermostat products for the biggest names in HVAC. Venstar's Surveyor is a leading energy management system, typically saving small-box retailers 25–35 percent of their energy costs, which translates to tens of millions of dollars in savings each year and dramatic reductions in CO² emissions. Surveyor currently controls the energy usage of 25,000+ retail locations across the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Mexico.



“Venstar’s SchoolStats have greatly contributed to reducing energy usage for our school district and have made it easier than ever for our teachers to have comfortable classrooms and for our maintenance team to reduce the time it takes to manage the thermostats. We are very happy with our SchoolStats.”

*– Rick Freed, Energy Manager/Educator
Conejo Valley School District*

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