

# West Bolivar School District



## CUSTOMER BENEFITS

- Guaranteed savings
- Reduced energy costs
- Improved comfort levels
- Decreased maintenance load

## PROJECT AT A GLANCE

### Project Type:

Energy Performance Contract  
(\$538,846 for 15 years)

### Location:

Rosedale, Mississippi, USA

### Number of Buildings:

4 (165,743 sq.ft.)

### Guaranteed Annual Savings:

\$51,819

### Energy Conservation Measures:

- Andover Continuum™ EMS
- Lighting retrofit
- New rooftop units

### Environmental Facts:

West Bolivar School District annually saves energy equivalent to ...

- Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 33 tons
- Removing 7 automobiles from the roads
- Planting 9 acres of trees



This small, rural school district leveraged a performance contract from Schneider Electric to fund building system improvements to enhance indoor comfort levels while making all its facilities more energy-efficient.

## The Challenge

Rosedale is the county seat and home of the West Bolivar School District, serving four small towns in the northwestern corner of the state. Enrollment during the 2006-2007 school year numbered 1,014 students in grades K-12.

Like many school districts dealing with limited budgets and multiple facility problems, West Bolivar School District faced a number of energy challenges in 2007. Among the most pressing issues were rising energy costs, aging mechanical equipment, and a lack of centralized control in its three schools and administration building.

Most of the facilities also struggled with inconsistent cooling and heating. Inadequate lighting in the gyms hindered play and made it difficult for audiences to follow games.

“The new EMS will help us to lower our high energy bills, especially now that we will have a means to control heating and cooling in unoccupied spaces.”

Henry Phillips, Jr.  
Superintendent

District officials knew they had to find a way to remedy these problems, despite an already strained budget. So, when Schneider Electric approached decision-makers to talk about a performance contract, they listened with interest.

A performance contract is a turnkey solution that incorporates system design, construction and commissioning. It also guarantees energy savings typically generated by upgrading existing systems or installing new ones. And, if those savings are not realized, Schneider Electric agrees to pay the difference.

Schneider Electric conducted a preliminary energy audit and offered a workshop – all at no charge – to educate school district officials about performance contracting. After presenting the audit results, all agreed that a performance contract was a viable solution for addressing the district’s issues. So, West Bolivar School District awarded the contract to Schneider Electric for a total energy management retro-fit.

### The Solution

Schneider Electric installed an Andover Continuum™ energy management system to control the indoor environment at all school district facilities. Today, the school district uses the Andover Continuum system to schedule HVAC with an enable/disable capability, automatically accommodating the diverse needs of each facility.

A front-end computer provides easy access to the new EMS. In addition to using the system to schedule daily operations, the facilities staff conserves energy and controls costs by programming the system for holidays, weekends and special events. System-generated reports provide valuable trending information to help optimize the system.

A lighting retro-fit increased illumination throughout all facilities while decreasing operating costs. To enhance the learning environment, Schneider Electric replaced T12 lamps and magnetic ballasts with more energy-efficient T8 lamps and electronic ballasts. To enhance the enjoyment of sports events, Schneider Electric installed high-bay fluorescent lights in the competition gyms. In addition to being more energy-efficient, these new lights provide an “instant strike” capability whenever a switch is turned on.

Schneider Electric replaced aging rooftop units and split systems to improve heating and cooling capabilities. The new equipment is more energy-efficient and has substantially improved comfort levels in all of the facilities.

Enduring performance improvements are achieved through Schneider Electric’s Performance Assurance Support Services (PASS) offering. PASS provides remote monitoring and technical support, as well as a complete analysis and reporting of energy usage. This annually renewable contract also guarantees energy savings and project performance after its initial installation.

### The Bottom Line

The new, districtwide EMS has lowered energy bills while providing greater system control. Moreover, the energy savings covered the cost of retro-fitting the district’s facilities.

The new HVAC equipment resolved cooling and heating problems in the administration building and remedied air distribution complaints from the elementary school office.

With centralized controls, the facilities staff uses a desktop PC to monitor and manage various zones, temperatures and any problems that may arise.