



HEALTH CARE

Garratt-Callahan Cures a Potentially Costly Illness In Medical Center's HVAC System

Problem

A medical center in Iowa had a big problem with its HVAC system, which controlled the medical environment in 99 different zones, each with its own heat pump. Because the system had become severely fouled, the modulating valve bellows in the heat pumps tended to plug up, causing the system either to stick wide open or shut down. As a result, the entire facility would get either too warm or too cool, depending on which of the 99 heat pumps had become stuck. Aside from subjecting staff and patients to uncomfortable and potentially unsafe conditions, the hospital was facing the substantial maintenance task – and cost – of opening, inspecting, and cleaning the 99 heat pumps, all of them located in the ceilings.

Solution

Garratt-Callahan technicians implemented a two-stage program to scrub the HVAC system. Using a filter feeder, they introduced Garratt-Callahan's Formula 249-SG acid cleaner to remove iron oxide deposits, mill scale, and copper deposits. In addition, Formula 248-L alkaline cleaner was used to remove oil, grease, and organic debris and recondition surfaces within the system.

Results

Garratt-Callahan's scrubbing of the HVAC system averted the need to open ceilings throughout the hospital to inspect and clean the system's 99 heat pumps – a task that would have cost the facility more than \$16,000.

Conclusion

Often overlooked until they develop potentially serious problems, closed HVAC systems can require the emergency medicine that only experienced water treatment specialists can provide. Garratt-Callahan's expertise can help you head off and solve such problems before they begin to cost you time and money.

Garratt-Callahan: Critical care for hospital systems, from the HVAC to the OR.