Infrastructure

Presented to an organization that has modified or replaced major portions of the utility generations, distribution, or control systems involving significant project planning.

Project:
Operating Suite HVAC Upgrade at the South Georgia Medical Center

Location:
Valdosta, Ga.

Square feet:
15,000

Project cost:
$1.82 million

Team members:
Terry Havard, director of facilities, South Georgia Medical Center, Valdosta, Ga.
Stephan “Mo” Mosher, MA, CHFM, assistant administrator of engineering/facilities, South Georgia Medical Center, Valdosta, Ga.
Mark Hope, PE, principal, HPD, LLC, Atlanta, Ga.
Bill Forbes, chief planning officer, South Georgia Medical Center, Valdosta, Ga.

The team working to upgrade the HVAC systems in the South Georgia Medical Center operating suite worked to provide proper temperature and humidity levels despite the humid south Georgia climate. The team had limited access and a tight timeline for the project, but created a new HVAC system with setbacks for unoccupied periods.

Another challenge was limited access to the basement-level fan room due to additions to the original building. All equipment, piping, and ductwork had to be staged and lowered in and out of the area using a crane. This required detailed pre-planning to help the project succeed.

The project resulted in two new air handling systems with HEPA filtration, new humidification, sub-cooling, and touchscreen room controls. Staff can now change temperatures from 72 degrees to 62 degrees in 15 minutes while maintaining humidity below 40 percent. The new system is projected to result in a 25 percent energy reduction while providing the required environment for the operating suite.