CASE STUDY: **Block R, University of Surrey**

University of Surrey moves from local to central control

- **Electric room heating**
- **New build installation**
- **Commissioned and warrantied by Prefect**

The University has more than 5,000 rooms of various types, Peter Holland is the Project Liaison Manager at the University of Surrey and has been responsible for the developments in the estate's facilities. "We decided that we were going to go away from wet-heating and would have an electric system. I looked around and I spoke to AUE [Association of University Engineers]. They suggested, looking at Prefect Controls Ltd."

"I had a look, and after speaking to other universities, on hearing their delight in the product [Ecostat] with no complaints, we plumped for a system that we had more control over. They [Prefect Controls] got the contract for 240 bedrooms in Block G. That was about 5 years ago. We could set it up and they [students] couldn't tamper with it. There was a temperature controller and PIR built into the wall unit, we could put 'setbacks' on it – if students left the room for a period of time it would set back. If they hadn't been there for 12 hours or whatever it would switch down to frost protection."

The changes have been gradual, each time getting better and block R is different, taking the lessons learnt from the previous building projects. It was decided to go from local control to centrally controlled heating and hot water – the obvious choice was Irus.

Irus enables management to set and monitor comfort and 'sleep' temperatures whilst controlling time profiles in each bedroom separately. This level of individual control over specific rooms is not possible with other building management systems despite their other capabilities. Irus allows the onsite management team to tailor the time temperature profile to achieve the maximum energy saving possible, while providing a comfortable living environment.

The Prefect Irus interface unit is connected to the building power supply and a broadband internet connection. The systems software then allows secure access from anywhere.

Additionally, a diagnostic program is included to highlight fault finding and speed up maintenance. Two-way communication is standard with Prefect Irus, so status reports for temperature or boost conditions in any room is available through the password protected "engineer program", The Prefect Irus engineering status screen allows quick diagnostics of heating, lighting or even cooling for each location.

There are many factors influencing the choice of heating control system including ease of use, energy saving and cost, and as Peter states, "Cost is always a consideration and Irus is favourably priced."

Monitoring, managing and measuring energy use means students are provided with a healthy, safe and comfortable environment for studying while energy managers are assured that they are only paying for the energy required.

Prefect

Cleverly simple
control of energy.