Energy consumption reduced and operation simplified with building controller retrofit

By commissioning the redevelopment of an outdated building controller, it was possible for Nordea Bank of Norway, the owner of office buildings in Oslo, to drastically reduce their energy consumption. The open control solution, based on a Beckhoff Embedded PC and Bus Terminal I/O, has also proved to be an economic success just one year after the retrofit: Energy savings of more than 100,000 euros have virtually offset the investment costs.

The requirements of private and public building owners with regard to energy efficiency have changed drastically over the course of the last decade. Following this trend, the Nordea Bank, owner of four office buildings in Lilleaker, in West Oslo, decided to initiate a retrofit of the building automation systems. Up until then the buildings, which were built at the end of the 1990s, had had no intelligent HVAC controller to make it possible to purposefully control energy use and avoid waste. A further disadvantage was the fact that it was virtually impossible for the user to understand and operate the building controller.

Thus ISS Facility Management, Nordea’s property administrator, commissioned the Oslo company SRO AS with the development of a modern automation solution. At the center of the project was the optimization of energy consumption as well as an intuitive user interface that would make it possible for the user to operate and monitor the controller if need be.