

Retirement Home



The Challenge

Conditioning ventilation air is typically the single largest source of energy consumption in a facility. In this case, the original design incorporated a 7,000-cfm air handling unit with packaged gas heat, direct expansion (DX) cooling and a sensible-only heat pipe energy recovery device. We knew there was a better solution that could improve efficiency and cut costs.

The O'Dell Solution

Working with Bousquet, a unit was designed using an enthalpy wheel for total latent and sensible energy recovery. With the correct energy recovery technology, a number of efficiencies were realized, specifically:

- Reduced size of integral humidifier capacity by 100lbs/hr
- Reduced cooling by 82-MBH (>6 tons)
- Reduced heating by 350-MBH

The owners approved the revised design, resulting in initial capital cost savings and future energy savings. This is a great example of a complete team of professionals that included general contractor, mechanical contractor and sales engineer—all working together to deliver value to the building owner.

O'Dell Associates, together with the team from McKenzie Mechanical and Van-Del Contracting, provided an alternative air handling solution for a new retirement home.



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