



Executive Summary Facilities Committee Meeting

DATE: March 16, 2021

TOPIC: Ascent© Control Module Upgrade and Data Communication Wiring at Lincoln Hall

PREPARED BY: Jim Caldwell and Courtney Whited

Recommended for:

- ☐ Action
- ☒ Discussion
- ☒ Information

Purpose/Background:

A board and two actuators shorted out in room 103 at Lincoln Hall during the February 2021 deep freeze. This created a larger problem within the BAS where other access points were affected. This is when an excessive load was discovered on the BACtalk© Control Module (BCM). Currently, there are two Alerton BCMs at Lincoln Hall. These units are global controllers which are considered the “brains” of the building automation system. They were installed by ABC Building Automation in 2005. They are no longer in production. The recommended load for a BCM is 64 Versatile Logic Controller devices. Control Engineering Corporation reviewed the number of devices currently on each module. Controller one (4000 BCM Network 30) has 47 total devices; 19 of them are third party. Controller two (4100 BCM Network 300) has 80 total devices; 27 of them are third party. Alerton modules should never exceed 64 devices. When adding third party devices it is necessary to reduce the maximum load count. Third party devices are always assumed to be full wave while Alerton devices are half wave. If there was a network consisting solely of third party devices, the maximum limit would be 32, not 64. Control Engineering Corporation provided the attached quote for a solution. District Administration requests the assistance of the architect and engineering firms, Studio GC and IMEG, to verify this is the most appropriate and comprehensive solution.

Fiscal Impact:

Unknown

Recommendation:

This summary is for informational purposes. The Administration requests direction from the Facilities Committee on next steps relative to the overburdened control module at Lincoln Hall.