



STORM READINESS & RISK MANAGEMENT

Mother Nature has the extreme power to bring beautiful summer days but also natural disasters. She also has the power to force change and raise awareness. It is critical to be proactive by wisely implementing lessons learned that help facility owners and operators prepare for future disasters. FXB Engineering believes it is imperative to help optimize the way owners manage their buildings to reduce interruptions during these stressful times

Waiting until the devastation occurs limits a facility owner's ability to respond efficiently. Relying on the local utility company to restore services may take days or weeks depending on the severity of the storm and is subject to their regional priorities. Installing back up generators along with implementing proper preventative maintenance procedures on electrical and mechanical equipment ensures continued operation of your facility while these recovery efforts are underway. If these processes are in place and documented before a storm or disaster hits, staff and engineers are familiar with the systems and can respond immediately with emergency support.

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Where is my facility exposed to failure?

While identifying exactly when a storm or other disaster will hit and to what degree is unrealistic, a Risk Assessment can identify potential points of failure within a variety of building systems in the event that they do. This process develops a list of recommended corrective actions that can be turned over to a management team for budgeting and scheduling.

How much of a financial investment do I need to make?

Developing a cost/benefit analysis is necessary to determine the most economical ways to mitigate against future loss. An engineer will help decision makers understand the importance of specific building systems as related to the unique operational characteristics of a business and assist in prioritizing corrective actions accordingly. Typically, reactive measures during the emergency situation are significantly more expensive than the preventative actions that can be taken before a disaster occurs.

Are these preventative measures required by regulatory entities?

Existing codes are subpar when it relates to disaster planning as such they do not always typically require building owners implement preventative measures. However, as the impact of storms is increasing on our advancing communities, insurance companies along with enforcement agencies are becoming more aware of the importance of preventative measures and increasing their standards accordingly. FXB is committed to working with building owners and property managers to assess their needs and guide them through the development of a risk management program.

FXB ENGINEERING

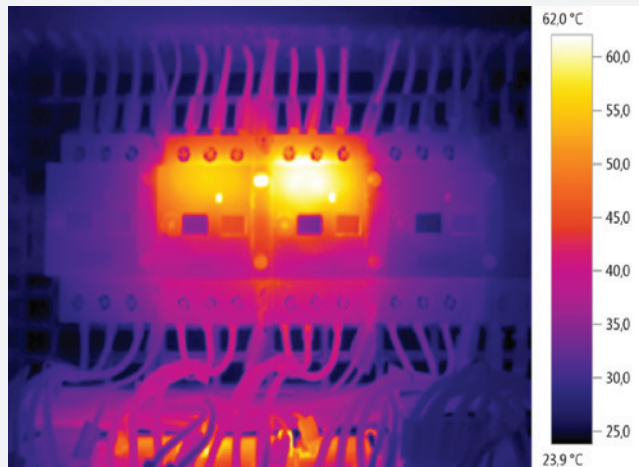
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INFRARED THERMOGRAPHY: EARLY DETECTION PREVENTS DOWNTIME

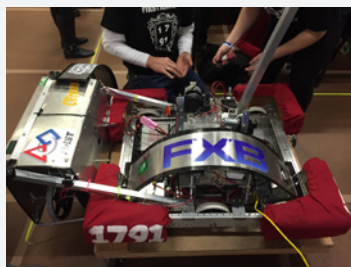
Thermography has been utilized a key early detection tool for many years over a wide variety of industries. Since the 1980's, the use of this technology in the commercial building sector has grown due to its unrivaled ability to identify vulnerable electrical equipment or connections, which if left undetected, would result in costly repairs and operational downtime. Skilled thermographers can provide valuable site assessments on nearly every building component that can be utilized by facility management teams to create effective preventative maintenance programs. In some cases, awareness of this proven technology has been realized by insurance underwriters through reduced premium offerings to customers who pursue electrical thermographic surveys.

Choosing the right team to perform these non-invasive surveys is the first step in realizing the benefit of this time proven service. Improper thermal tuning may lead to misinterpretation of thermographic images and can be a costly mistake leading to premature replacement efforts or overlooked subtle differences that can reduce the effectiveness of a program. FXB combines the extensive building system knowledge of professional engineers with the thoroughness of certified field technicians to offer turnkey solutions which can satisfy any thermal imaging needs.



IN THE COMMUNITY: FIRST ROBOTICS COMPETITION

Combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology, FIRST Robotics Competition is the ultimate Sport for the Mind. High-school students have an intense six-week time limit to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program industrial-size robot to play a difficult field game against like-minded competitors. It's as close to real-world engineering as a student can get. FXB is proud to volunteer as a professional mentor and lend time and talent to guide a local team.



Go team: Clayton HS-Clayton, NJ – First Robotics Team # 1791



NEW JERSEY SHORE: BEACH FRONT RESORT

Visually stunning with its natural beauty and gently kissed by the sun and sea, Icona Diamond Beach is southern New Jersey's newest luxurious beach front resort. Developed by world-renowned Achristavest, it sits on 425-feet of private and pure white New Jersey beach sand. Hotel Icona was recognized by the State of NJ through a congressional resolution, for its exceptional quality and economic impact on the Cape May coast.

FXB Engineering was selected to assist in several renovation projects for this 5-star beach resort.

NOTHING LASTS FOREVER: PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE IS A WISE INVESTMENT

Electrical systems and electrical equipment deterioration is normal, and failure is inevitable over time. Failure from deterioration is typically a slow process, but severe conditions; overloading of systems, circuits and equipment; and excessive duty cycling can all accelerate the end of life process. However, an effective preventive maintenance program can delay failure. Often, it is challenging to establish and maintain a reasonable budget for maintaining electrical equipment and systems. It is always best for customers to plan for an effective preventive maintenance program requiring support and buy-in from management and a good team of engineers and contractors who can prevent, repair and follow all codes and safety measures.



CONTRACTOR'S CORNER:

Preventative Measures

Some owner and facility preventive maintenance programs are deficient, often to the point of failure that results in unwanted or costly downtime. Preventive maintenance is often ignored and considered too expensive to implement. In reality, it is a valuable investment that can help avoid equipment failure, alleviate repair and replacement costs, and increase safety for personnel.

What can you do?

- Identify equipment within a building that may require servicing or PM
- Communicate to facility management teams the various PM regulations that are applicable to their facility
- Execute corrective actions and service work as needed
- Build trusted and reliable partnerships by acting as a liaison between facility owners and design teams
- Stabilize work flow through flexible and predictive scheduling
- Maintain constant brand support with the facility management team