Aerial view of VIA University

ICONICS

VIA University
Aarhus, Denmark

VIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

B BALSLEV

*Ventilation Control Screen for
VIA University's Aarhus C Campus*

About VIA University

VIA University was established in Denmark in 2008, originally spread across 38 sites throughout the country. Today, the university has been consolidated within 18 sites in eight cities. The school provides a variety of educational disciplines, including Business, Design, Movies/Animation, Education, Social Sciences, Healthcare and Technology.

ICONICS Software Deployed

Working with system integrator/design consultant, Balslev Automation A/S, VIA University selected ICONICS GENESIS64™ HMI/SCADA suite, along with AlarmWorX™64 Multimedia OPC alarm management software.
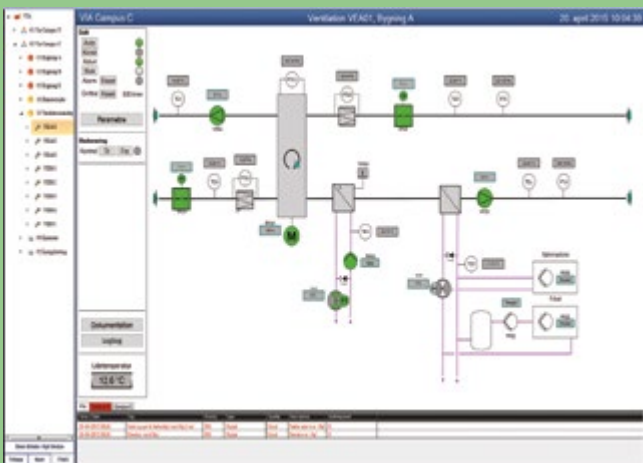
Project Summary

Over the past seven years, VIA University recognized their growth within Denmark, even as it sought to consolidate its campuses from 38 sites to 18. Today, the school's 18 sites are spread across 238,000 square meters, with a population of 25,000 people, including students, teachers, technical personnel and more (14 percent of which are international). As part of this simultaneous regrouping and expansion, the university began construction of new facilities, such as its Aarhus N campus, while considering new options for building management solutions.

VIA University required a software vendor who could provide a cost-effective, open building management solution for their Aarhus N (37,000 square meter) and Aarhus C (47,000 square meter) campuses. Of primary concern was the monitoring and control of campus buildings' daily operation, especially the comfort of occupants, as the university believes that an assured optimized indoor climate for students is the best environment for learning. Minimizing operational cost was also a factor in the school's decision.

VIA University has developed its own building management user's manual, revised once or twice a year, which is considered essential to optimal operations. With this in mind, the school sought a software vendor that would reduce complexity in operations, while ultimately reducing associated costs.

With Balslev Automation A/S's assistance, VIA University chose ICONICS for their software vendor. The school has many years' experience with other long established vendors in Denmark, but found them too costly for this project.

Energy Smart Buildings

Benefits of the System

Ultimately, ICONICS was selected for being more cost-effective and for its open system based on open standards. ICONICS GENESIS64 now connects to the university's WAGO PLCs using OPC communications. The software provides interfaces with alarm system, fire detection, access control, UPS and cooling systems, easily handling the school's approximate 15,000 tags.

VIA University has noted its annual operational savings in comparison to before installing ICONICS software.

"We have lowered the cost of operation by selecting GENESIS64 and PLC-based controllers for BMS," said

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Solutions Highlighted

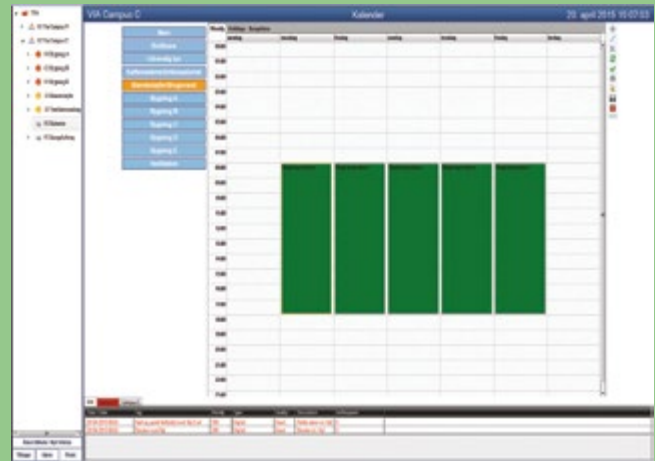**GENESIS64™**
HMI/SCADA and Building Automation Suite

AlarmWorX™64 Multimedia
Multimedia OPC Alarm Management Software

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VIA University's Aarhus N Campus Plan in GENESIS64

Scheduling Feature in GENESIS64 for VIA University Building Management

Anders Thorsen, Technical Manager at VIA University. "We wanted open systems based on open standards; to have the freedom to select suppliers of our choice in the future. This is saving us money every year."

Conclusion

Pleased with the Aarhus N and Aarhus C rollouts, VIA University is now considering ICONICS for its future expansion efforts. The school is considering integration with solar panels as well as facility management within other locations. Due to its cost-effective, open standards-based solutions, ICONICS is pleased to have been graded so highly by VIA University.

Case Study Details

ICONICS solution for VIA University includes:
- Building Management for Two Campuses (each over 30,000 square feet)
- Reduction of Operational Costs
- Reduction of Complexity Compared to Prior Solution
- Open System Based on Open Standards
- OPC Communications
- Interface with Approximately 15,000 Tags