HONEYWELL FORGE

INNOVATING CAMPUS FACILITIES WITH HONEYWELL FORGE

How UNSW Sydney Enhanced Its Campus Performance and Efficiency with Honeywell Forge

Case Study

Universities are widely recognized as centers of innovation where talented students, researchers and faculty alike converge to create, learn and share new thoughts and ideas. One particular Australian university stands out for its commitment to innovation, which has extended beyond its campus community to include its campus infrastructure.

To embrace innovation in how it operates its campus facilities, the University of New South Wales Sydney (UNSW Sydney) partnered with Honeywell to deploy its cloud-based Honeywell Forge Performance+ for Buildings platform. The platform integrates raw data from multiple building management systems (BMS) vendors into a singular Honeywell Forge platform, providing UNSW Sydney with a standardized view of its buildings portfolio. Using the new Insight Builder functionality powered by the Honeywell Forge platform, custom widgets and dashboards provide near real-time information on building performance and efficiency opportunities across its campus.

The Honeywell Forge platform has provided UNSW Sydney with a powerful new way of visualizing and tracking how their entire campus is performing and the ability to operate more efficiently, enabling UNSW Sydney to deliver the best learning environment as well as meet business operational outcomes.

THE CHALLENGE

Located in Sydney, Australia, UNSW Sydney is one of Australia's largest academic institutions with a community of over 70,000 students and staff. The university is situated on 94 acres of land and boasts a vast campus portfolio, with more than 60 buildings that include lecture theaters, tutorial and study spaces, research laboratories, dormitories, sporting facilities and food and beverage venues. To support its growing community, UNSW Sydney has undertaken substantial revitalization projects to maintain its aging infrastructure, which has an average building age of 40 years old. The university has also undertaken a series of new construction projects to facilitate increased campus learning and research opportunities as well as improve student and faculty experience.

These building initiatives have created significant challenges for the university's Estate Management team. For one, most of UNSW Sydney's construction projects had been awarded to various contractors, leaving the university with an extensive list of BMS vendors, each installed by their respective building company and complete with their own dashboards, analytics and navigation paths. Managing these vendors was a complex undertaking for the Estate Management team, exacerbated by UNSW Sydney's inability to assess individual building performance relative to other buildings on campus.

THE SOLUTION

Honeywell partnered with UNSW Sydney to deploy Honeywell Forge for Buildings Performance+ to more than 30 buildings across the campus, enabling the university to gain a comprehensive view of building operations across the campus as well as the ability to compare and benchmark building performance.

The first deployment of Honeywell Forge focused on monitoring comfort performance metrics, utilizing custom widgets to provide simple, high-level summaries and insights for each key metric, including temperature, temperature setpoints, relative humidity, CO2 and occupancy levels within each building. The university was also equipped with supporting dashboards that offer detailed breakdowns for each insight, showing real-time performance and historical trends for every building. These dashboards allow quick benchmarking between all buildings across the campus – turning what previously was an extremely complex and time-consuming task into a quick and effortless exercise.

UNSW Sydney is now integrating other systems into the Honeywell Forge platform to visualize and track the performance of other key building services across the campus. The Estate Management team can then use the Honeywell Forge for Buildings Insight Builder capability to tailor new widgets and dashboards to get a comprehensive view and better track the performance of each building service. The Honeywell Forge for Buildings platform has helped improve how the university's Estate Management Department and various other university stakeholders manage campus buildings and prioritize maintenance tasks and asset lifecycle replacements. The platform has also enabled the Estate Management team and other stakeholders to have consistent metrics views for each building – an ability UNSW Sydney has not had until today.

"The team at Honeywell, through FORGE, have provided a platform that has elevated UNSW's digital buildings infrastructure, providing easily understood business insights that are changing the way we interpret and understand our facilities. It's helping to direct technical operations and influence our strategic approach to the built environment for all stakeholders, and is a big step forward towards AI driven decision making."
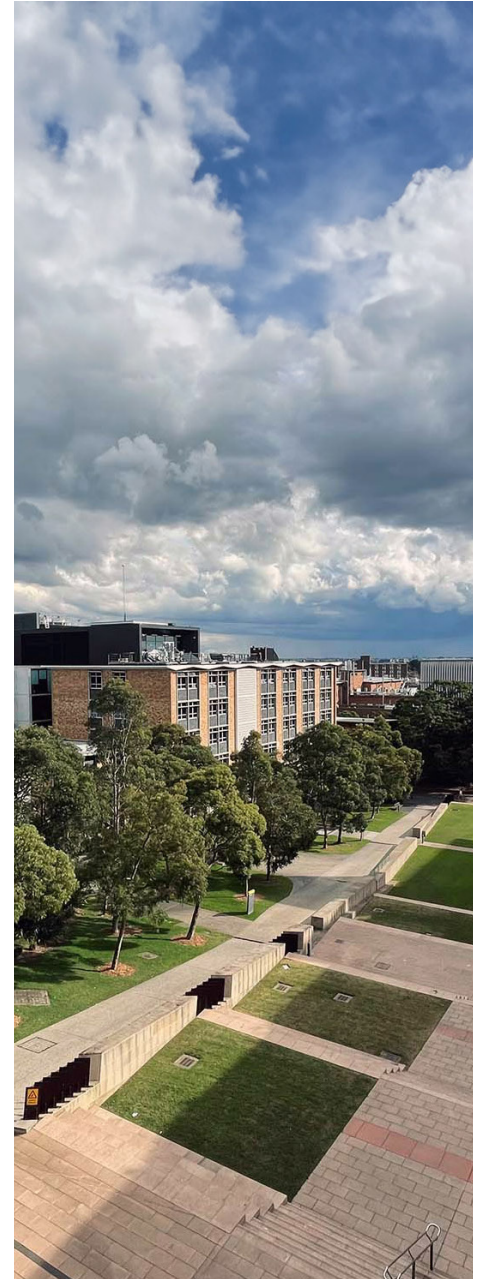
-UNSW

THE OUTCOMES

To date, Honeywell has integrated several different BMS systems across 30 buildings, with approximately 16.5k points enabling UNSW Sydney to own their campus's operational performance. The university has also increased data transparency across its campus, empowering UNSW Sydney stakeholders to seek out the Estate Management team and ask for specific insights that can now be built and deployed on a singular platform in near real-time.

Honeywell made adoption easy for campus stakeholders by using UNSW Sydney's domain accounts to manage their login to Honeywell Forge, a key requirement requested by the university. This allowed each UNSW Sydney user to log in to the Honeywell Forge platform with their campus login credentials in lieu of creating new login credentials set up by the Honeywell Forge team.

For UNSW Sydney, the Honeywell Forge Performance+ for Buildings platform has empowered them to make data-informed decisions and own their buildings' performance and operational strategy, highlighting the wide range of capabilities for Honeywell Forge as an analytical platform that both informs and drives insights from any type of data. Additionally, with Honeywell as its trusted technology partner, UNSW Sydney will benefit from building-specific insights that will help increase comfort performance and reduce operational costs, enabling the university to allocate more resources towards campus engagement and advancement.

Honeywell Connected Enterprise

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