



helping to measure, manage & control your energy

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University House – Measuring up for a low carbon future



University House at Warwick University is one of the largest consumers of electricity on campus. However, the main switchboard had only limited, manually read meters, a number of which were either not working or giving suspect readings.

Mark Jarvis, Utilities Technical Assistant at Warwick, decided to update the metering in order to provide reliable readings via the University's Coherent data collection system. Phase 1 of the project was to replace the existing meters with modern Modbus devices. Following a tendering exercise, UMS was awarded a contract to supply, install and commission the new metering system.

UMS selected the latest Modbus meters from preferred supplier PRI as they offered fast communications and wiring diagnostics via PRI's Wireswap software. The diagnostic software proved invaluable as it allowed UMS to both replace meters and correct any legacy wiring faults.

Wiring faults are particularly common where meters have been fitted to existing switchgear. If not corrected they are likely to undermine the whole purpose of installing metering which is to reduce waste through accurately measuring consumption.

Fifteen new meters were installed and "daisy chained" together using suitable Modbus data cable. However, before being connected to the University's Coherent IDC 32 logger, UMS used special software to confirm that there were no faults with either the set up of the meters or the Modbus wiring.

By using diagnostic tools to check meter operation for both measurement and communications, UMS was able to leave site knowing that the customer has a reliable metering solution.

Although the metering has only recently been installed, Mark is already focusing on the most significant loads with a view to reducing the carbon footprint of University House.