



## Challenges in the Building Automation Industry

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We help the best buildings in the world get that way.

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# TAC – A Company of Schneider Electric

*We help people make the most of their energy.*

## Energy & Infrastructures

*availability,  
safety, cost-effective*



## Industry

*productivity,  
flexibility, safety,  
traceability*



## Buildings → **tac**

*comfort,  
communication,  
safety, operating  
costs*



## Residential

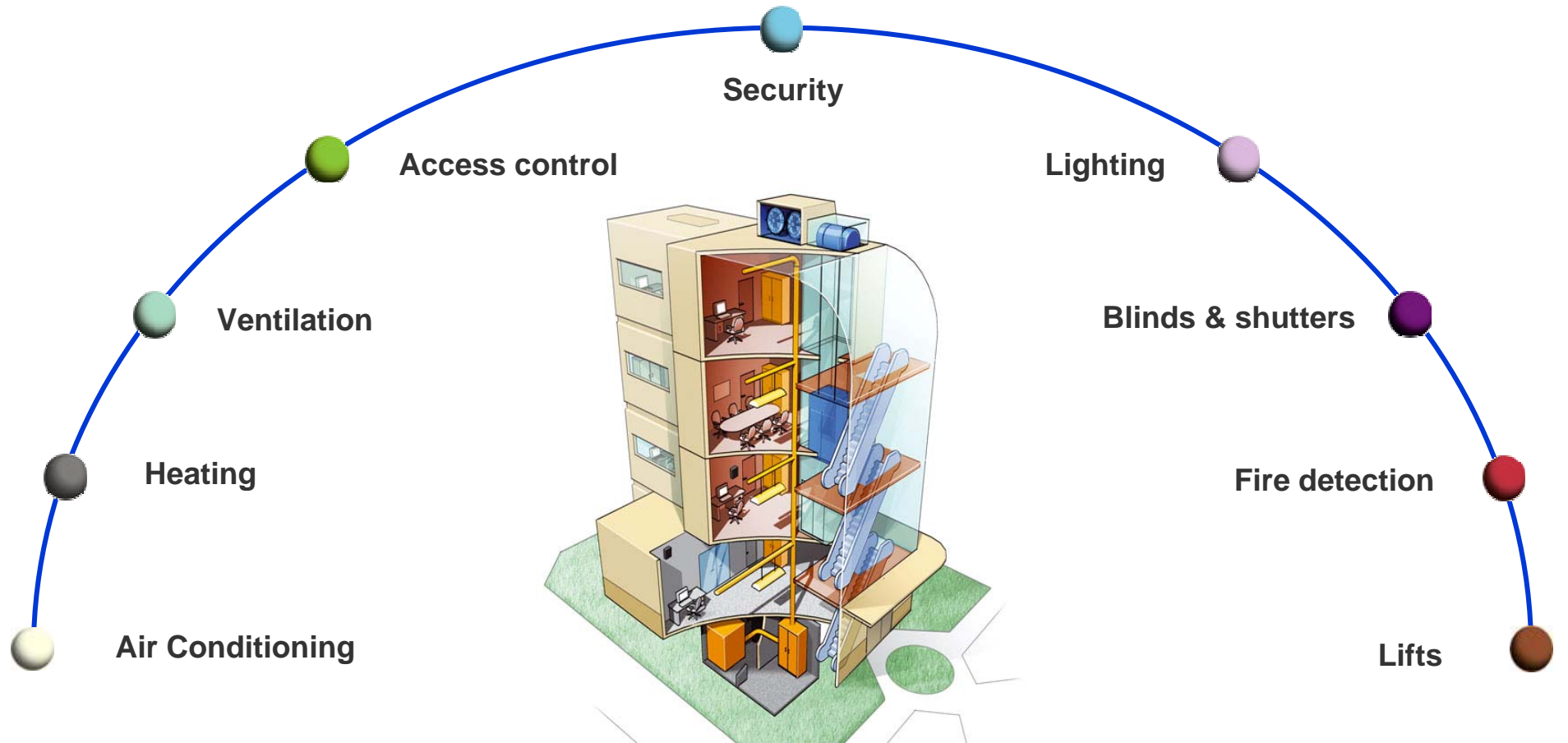
*safety, comfort,  
communication*



**Comprehensive range of products, software and services.**

# Building Automation

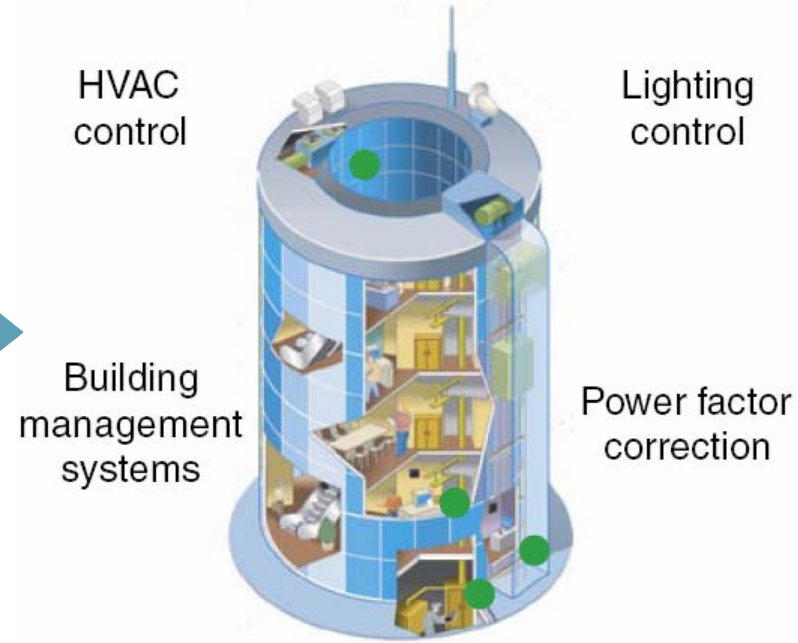
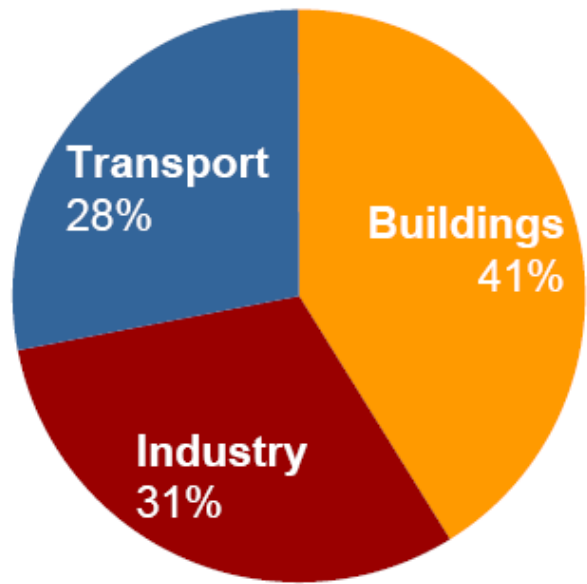
*We deliver to the end-users – Totally Open & Integrated solutions*



Our environment:  
Summary of Technology Trends (Outlook from 2003)



# Our environment: Energy use in Europe



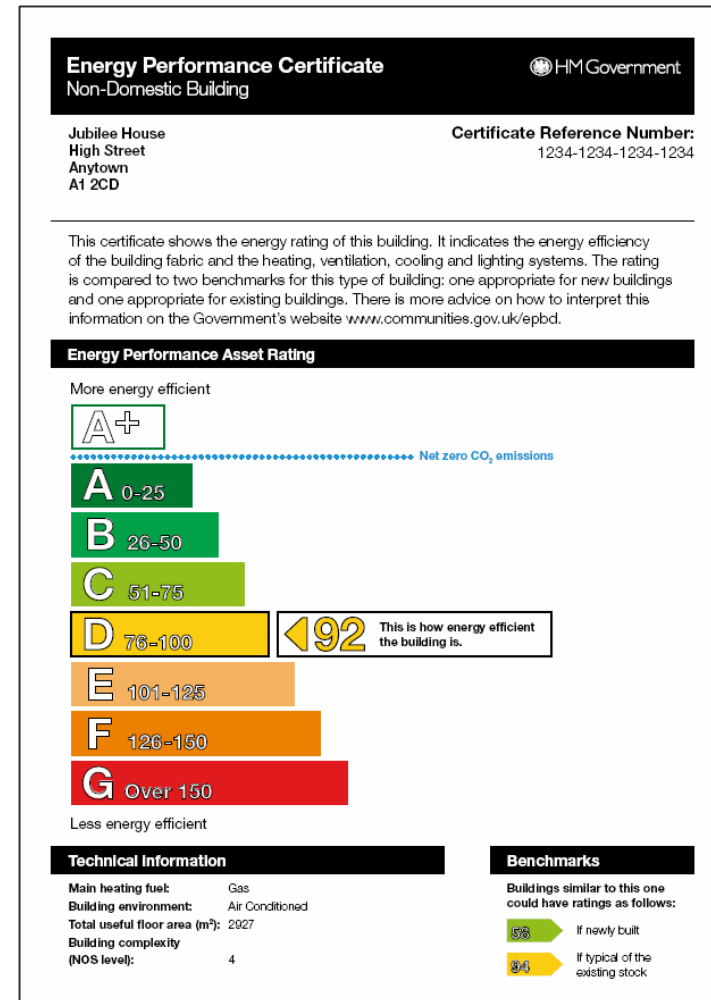
## Impact of Building Automation

Efficiency improvement and modernization can save up to 30 percent

# Our environment: Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD)

## Certification of buildings

- To be displayed in all “Public” buildings
- Compulsory as of 2009-04-01



# How to improve energy efficiency?

Our primary efforts to achieve energy savings:

- Improved controls strategies
- Improved operator and end user behavior
  
- Improvements to the building envelope (walls, windows, etc.) and technical equipment (air handling units, pumps, etc.) are most often not in our scope of supply

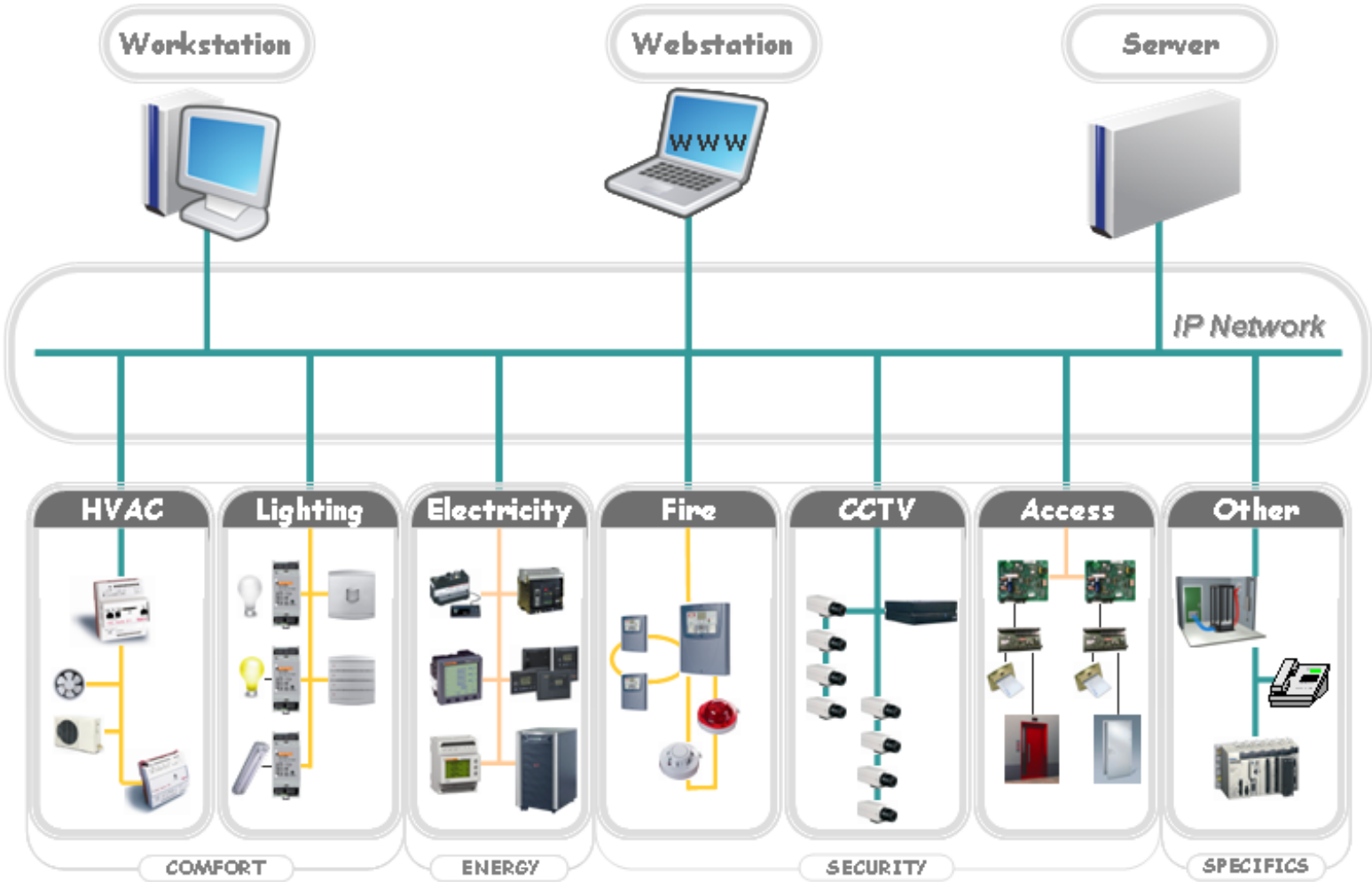


# Our challenges – 1

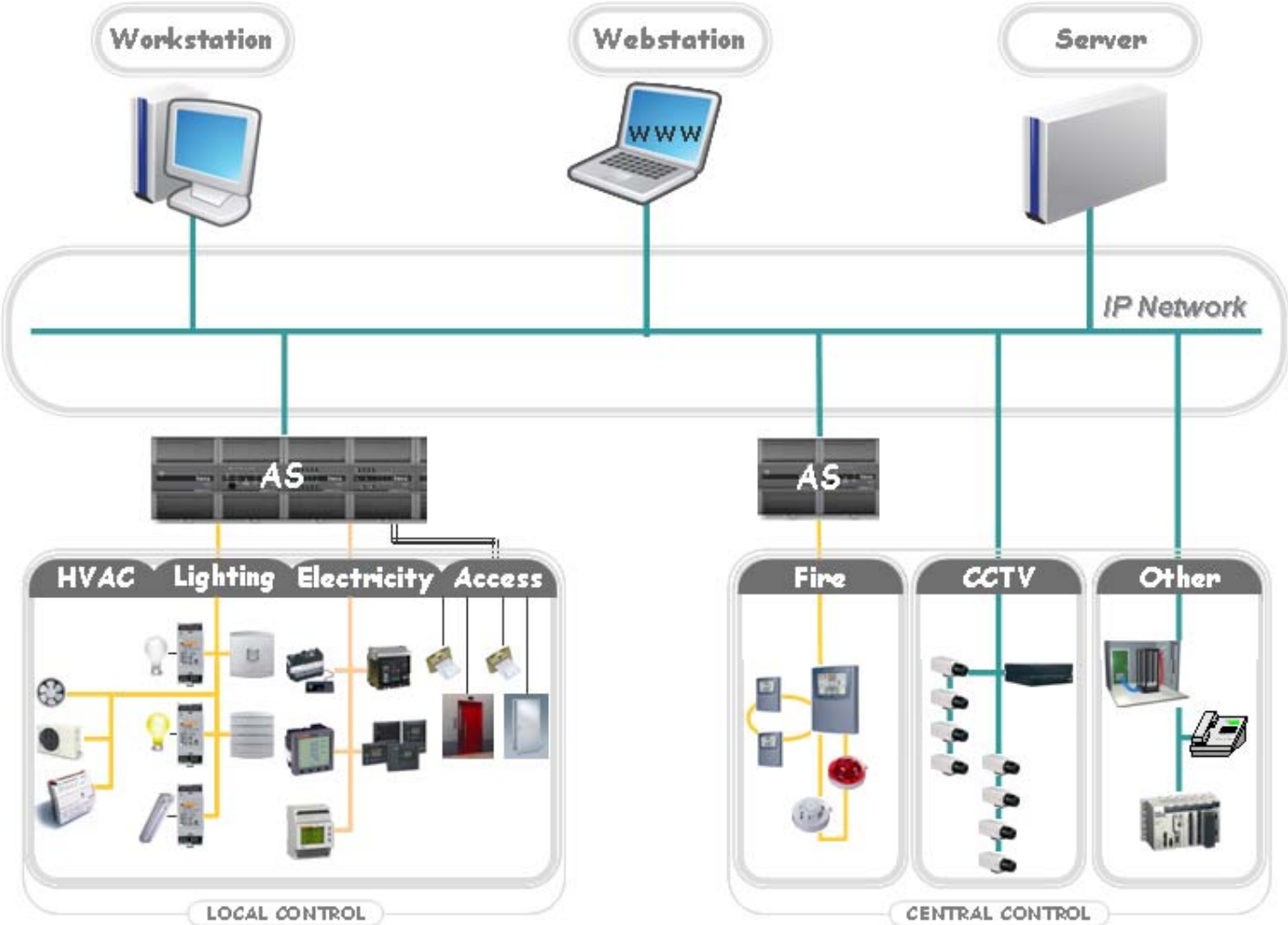
## Control

- Coordinated control of devices that traditionally have been part of different sub-systems, such as blinds, lighting and HVAC
  - This may require modeling of the impact the different subsystems have on energy use, and finding the best coordinated strategies to achieve the lowest energy use

# Global BMS Architecture – Sub-system View



# Global BMS Architecture – Integrated View

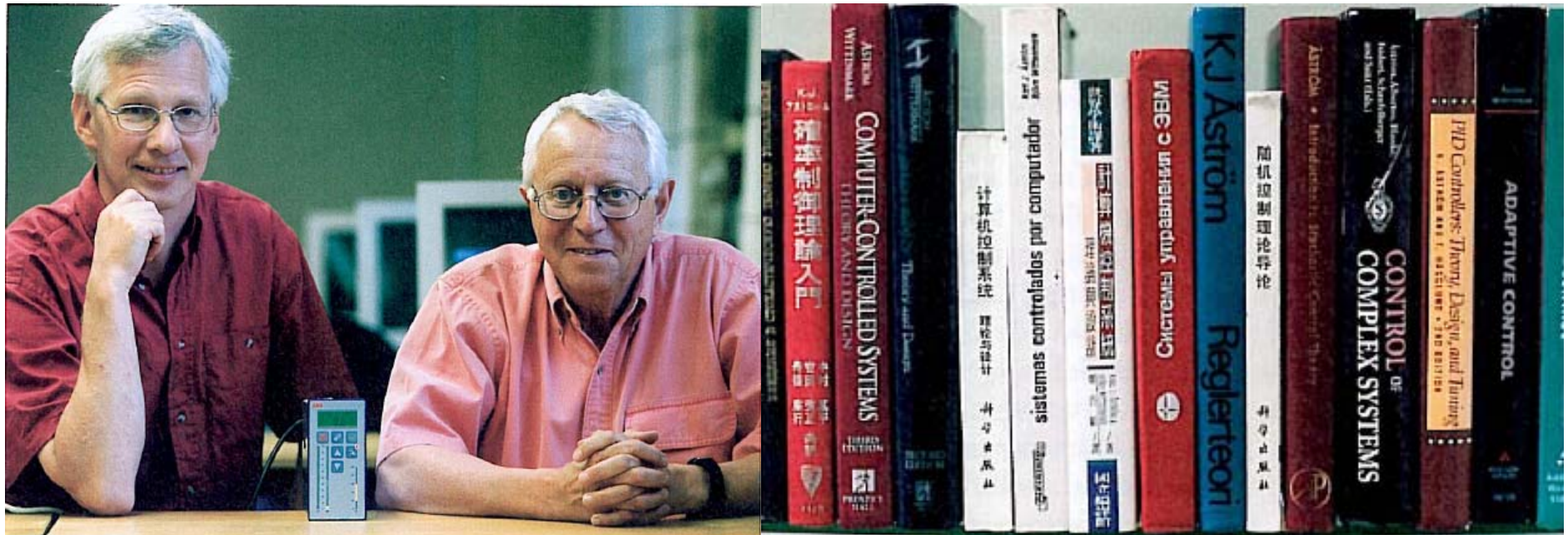


## Our challenges – 2

### Control

- Improved tuning of control loops
  - All control loops are initially set up using standard parameters and just checked to work 'properly'
    - It is considered too time consuming to tune loops unless there is a visible problem
  - We believe that mechanisms to easily find the best control parameters may be accepted
    - PID is what our engineering community is familiar with

# From knowledge to implementation .....

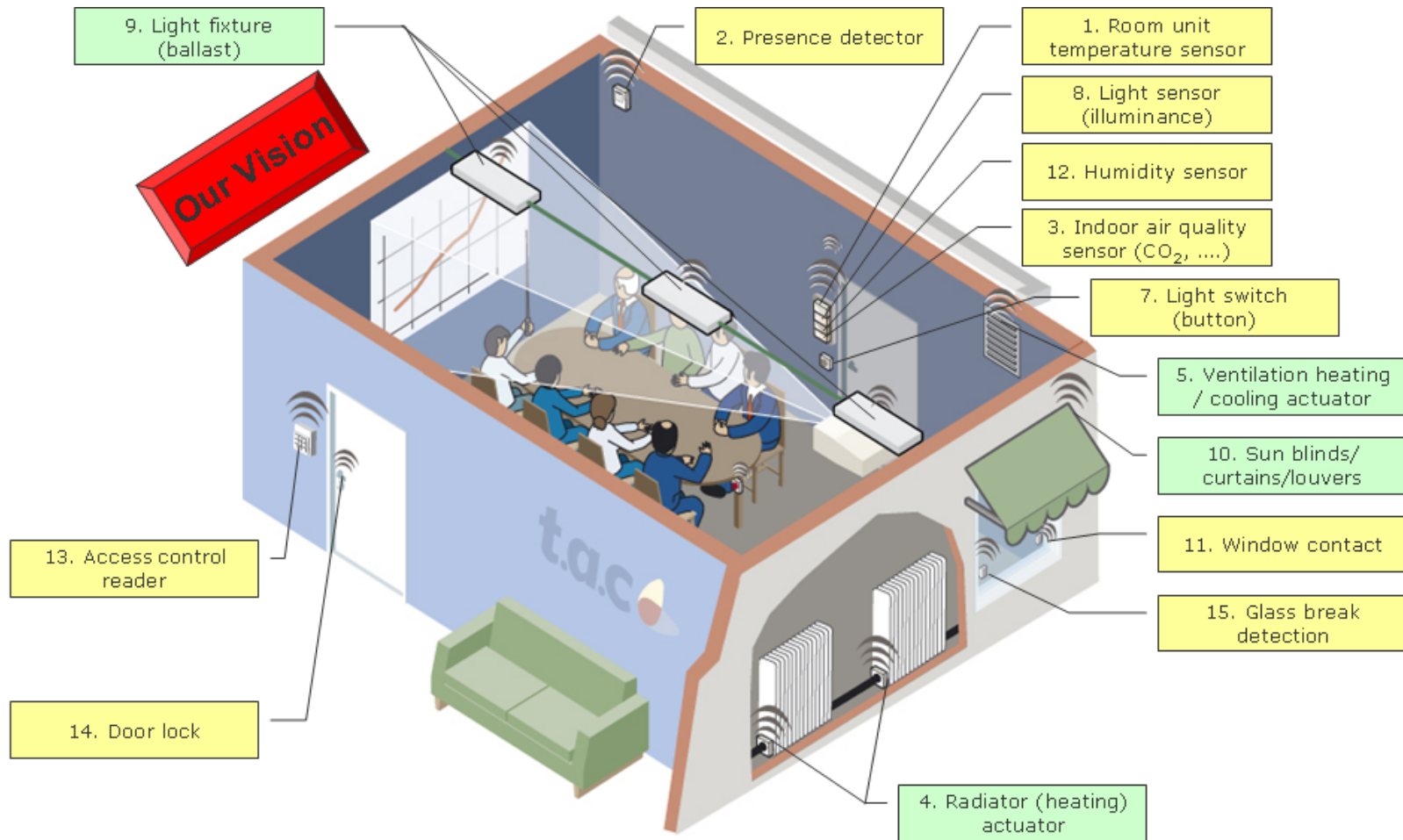


## Our challenges – 3

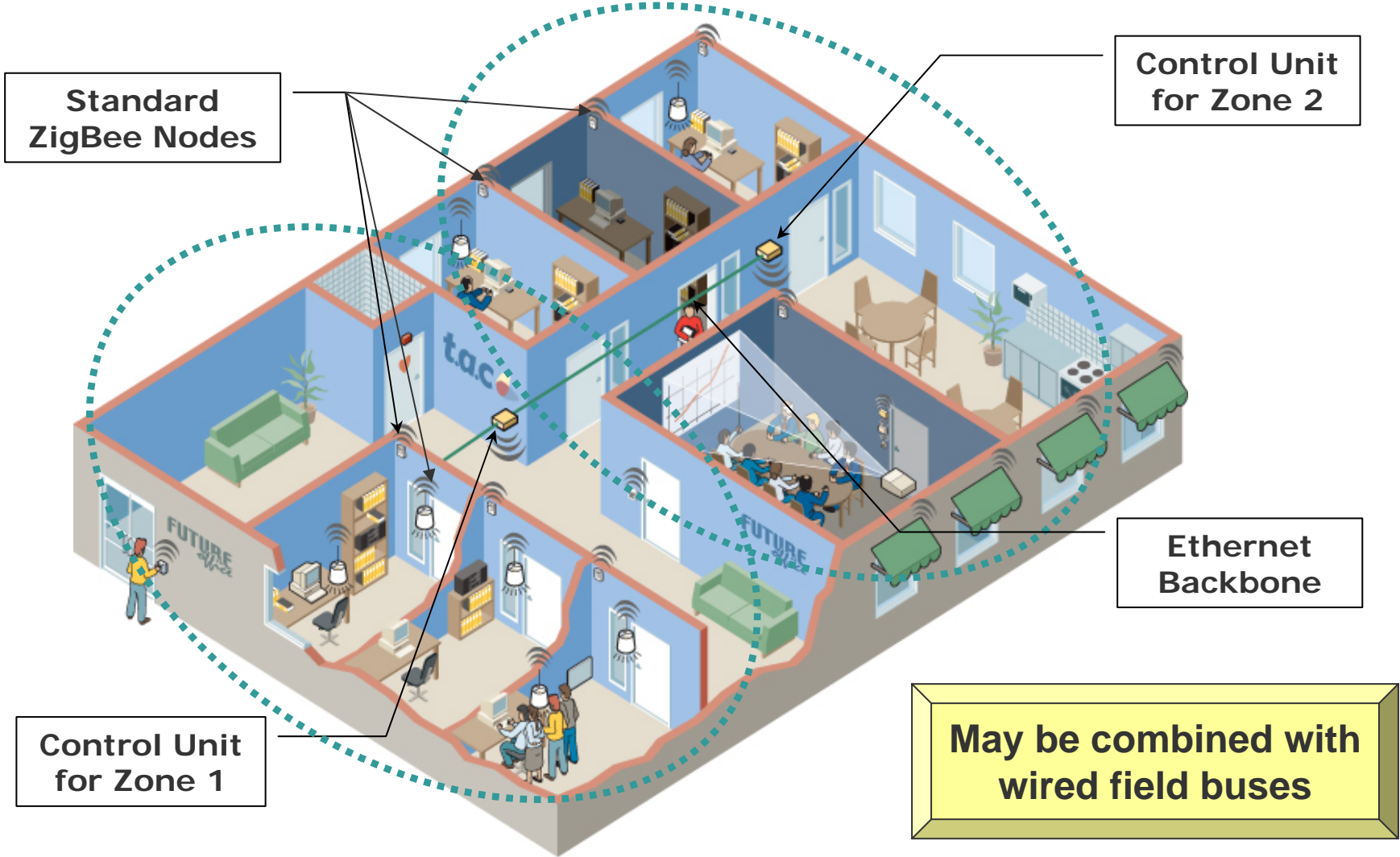
### Control

- Control using sensing devices that are wireless and battery or self-powered
  - What is the impact on control when sensors are sleeping most of the time?
  - This may impact the best strategies for sensors to read values versus sending the information, assuming that sensing makes use of much less power than sending a message

# Wireless Room Automation

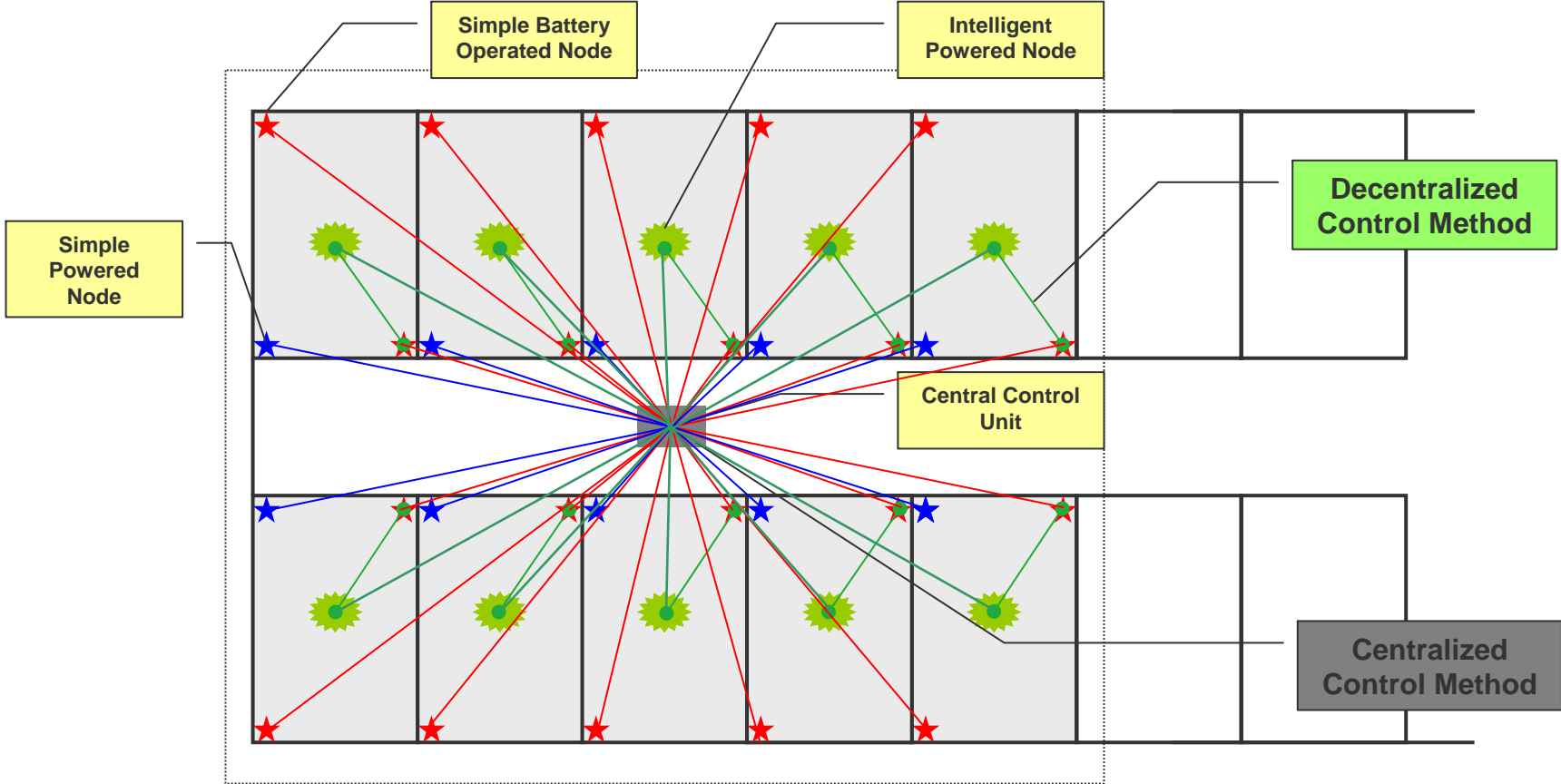


# Control Zones





# Wireless Zone

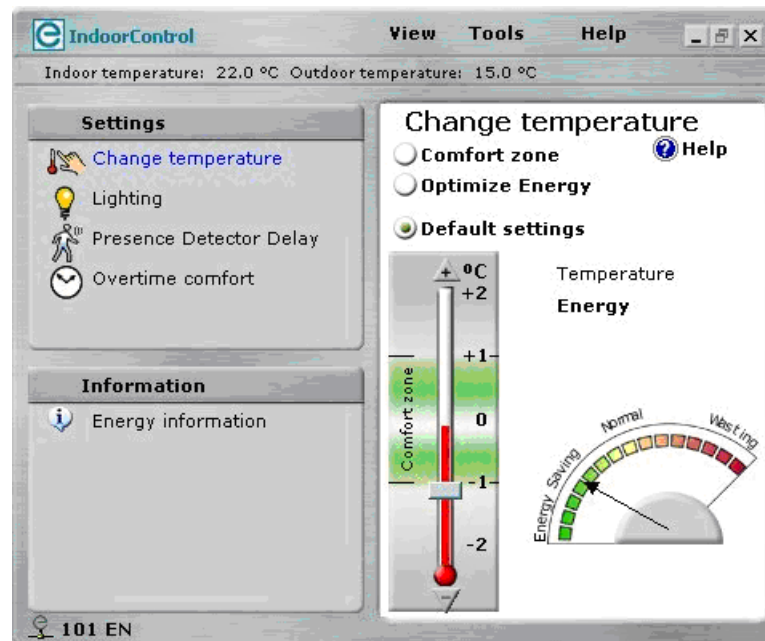


## Our challenges – 4

How operators and end users interact with the system:

- How can we make operators and end users better aware of the consequences of changes in operation of the system?
  - On-line simulation presented in an easy-to-understand way?

# Example: Interactive User Interface



## Our challenges – 5

How operators and end users interact with the system:

- How can we assist operators (and perhaps end users) in understanding how they can improve the performance of the system from the current situation?
  - Tools that help predict energy use applying different control strategies?

# Interactive Design Tool

The screenshot displays the TAC Design+ software interface. At the top, there is a menu bar with 'File', 'Application', 'Setup', 'Window', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with icons for 'New vent', 'New heating', 'New module', 'New group', 'Template', 'Open', and 'Save'. The main workspace shows a schematic diagram of a mechanical system with two parallel horizontal pipes. The top pipe contains a damper (D22), a fan (EF1) with pressure sensor (P72), and a heat exchanger (HEX). The bottom pipe contains a damper (D21), a fan (SF1) with pressure sensor (P81), a heat exchanger (HEX), a heating coil (CH1) with temperature sensor (T81), a fan (CSF1) with pressure sensor (P71), and a smoke sensor (SS). There are also various other sensors and valves labeled like T21, P1, V21, X71, X72, T11, T41, and T111. Below the diagram is a configuration panel with several dropdown menus:

- Supply air: 3 Two dampers
- Supply air filter: 4 Filter+dp-switch,RF+dk
- Recovery: 2 Rot.Heat exch
- Heating/Cooling: 5 Heat coil,DX-cool+FS
- Fans: 6 Supply air-VSD,a/s-ser
- Smoke/filter: 3 Smoke supply/ext air
- Sensor/room: 4 Supply air,room,timer

At the bottom of the interface, there are buttons for 'Compile', 'Options', 'Replace text', 'Notes', 'Application number' (displaying '3-4A-2-5-6A-3-4A-D-000'), 'Products', 'Help', and 'Exit'.

# Summary

## Building Automation

- Normally contains well behaved processes
- Presents some new challenges:
  - Control
    - Coordinated control of devices in different sub-systems
    - Improved tuning of control loops
    - Control in the wireless environment
  - How operators and end users interact with the system
    - Make operators and end users better aware of the consequences of changes in operation of the system
    - Assist operators (and perhaps end users) in understanding how they can improve the performance of the system



# Thank You !

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