

# Areas of Focus

## ROOFS

Minnesota State maintains nearly 13.1 million square feet of roofs on its academic buildings—an area equivalent to the size of 228 football fields. Roofing is one of the most critical waterproofing elements of a building and often is neither seen nor given much attention until failures occur. Campus impacts include:

- » Costly structural damage
- » Impaired insulation
- » Damage to interior finishes
- » Indoor air quality and mold problems



*At Rochester Community and Technical College, the college no longer installs ceiling-mounted projectors due to roof leaks in its Science and Technology Building. The college now relies on mobile projectors as we await funding to replace the roof, so as not to risk water leaks damaging our technology.*

– Steve Schmall, CFO, Rochester Community and Technical College

## BOILERS AND CHILLERS

Campus boilers and chillers are well beyond their useful lives on many campuses and operating inefficiently. Campus impacts include:

- » Inefficient boilers cost more campus operating dollars
- » Limited operating redundancy
- » Potential for equipment failures during volatile weather
- » Degraded indoor air quality



*At North Hennepin Community College, the main boilers that heat eight of the nine campus buildings are over 50 years old and getting temperamental. The controls for the boilers are getting hard to find and need to be replaced soon. With the upcoming weather, supplying and retaining the heat within our buildings is getting more difficult.*

– Stephen Kent, Vice President of Finance and Facilities, North Hennepin Community College

## ELECTRICAL GRIDS

Failing (50+ year old) campus electrical grids are an emerging issue at our campuses. Old cabling, replacement part scarcity, and design obsolescence all create a need for the updating of campus power grids. Campus impacts include:

- » Power failures causing canceled classes
- » Difficulty in obtaining replacement parts
- » Safety concerns when servicing equipment



*At Bemidji State University, the medium voltage electrical cabling is the electrical life line to every building on campus. The cabling is located in many of the pedestrian tunnels of the campus and causes major safety concerns when a failure occurs. We've had four power failures impacting campus buildings in the last four years due to equipment wearing out.*

– Travis Barnes, Director of Facilities, Bemidji State University