Energy Charting and Metrics Tool (ECAM) Part I: Introduction

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ECAM Credits and History

- ▶ Development by William Koran, P.E.
- Contracting Organizations
 - PECI, Portland Energy Conservation Inc.)
 - QuEST (Quantum Energy Services & Technologies Inc.)
 - NorthWrite Inc.
- ► Funding provided by the following organizations:
 - The Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
 - The California Energy Commission, Public Interest Energy Research (through the California Commissioning Collaborative)
 - Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL)
 - New Buildings Institute (NBI)



Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Mission

- ► The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) provides services, tools, and expertise to Federal agencies to help them achieve their legislated and executive-ordered energy, greenhouse gas, and water goals. These are delivered through project, technical, and program services.
- ▶ ECAM helps address FEMP's mission by helping Federal building managers and operators understand their energy consumption patterns and trends, interpret raw data from energy meters, identify underlying causes of inefficiencies, and pinpoint potential solutions.
- Universal Translator (UT2) addresses any data formatting issues that ECAM cannot handle, and pre-processes the data into ECAM format.

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Source: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/om requirements.html

Objectives of this Webinar Series

- ➤ To build off the Energy Policy Act (EPAct) requirement to install meters by October 1, 2012, to ensure efficient energy use and reduce the cost of electricity in Federal facilities. Advanced meters or metering devices must provide data at least daily and measure the consumption of electricity at least hourly.
- ➤ To show the capabilities of ECAM in analyzing the metering data (it is assumed that the meters are already in place and data is being collected).
- ➤ To show how the data from interval meters or from the building automation system (BAS) can be used with ECAM and Universal Translator (UT2), and help users install and begin processing collected data.



Part I: Outline of this Webinar

- ▶ What is an interval meter?
- ▶ What is a building automation system (BAS)?
- What is ECAM? Who developed it? What are its features and tools?
- ▶ What is the Universal Translator (UT2)?
- ► ECAM Installation guide (Microsoft Excel 2007/2010)
- Pre-process (clean up) raw data extracted from interval meters and the BAS
 - Practice file to be made available to participants of the webinar



What is an Interval Meter?

- Interval meters cover two categories
 - Electrical can track whole-building energy use, sub-panel energy use, or a specific end use (i.e., motors, chillers, etc.)
 - Flow-related water, steam, natural gas, and other flow-related meters installed in-line using positive displacement, insertion turbine, or pressure-related techniques.
- Output related to resource use (i.e., energy, water, natural gas, etc.)
- ▶ Data collection and automated meter reading (AMR) systems collect and report resource data usage through the central system (or BAS), depending on the facilities' ability to communicate with the meter.



Source: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/program/om meteringsystems.html

What is a Building Automation System (BAS)



- Centralized, interlinked networks of hardware and software
 - The purpose of the building automation system is to ensure control and operational performance of the facility as well as the comfort and safety of the building occupants.
 - The building automation system also serves as a tool to alert building operators of problems with equipment that could impact comfort and safety, and can store trended data that can be used to analyze how well the different building systems are actually performing.
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Understanding Building Automation and Control Systems

Building automation systems (BAS) are centralized, interlinked, networks of hardware and software, which monitor and control the environment in commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities. While managing various building systems, the automation system ensures the operational performance of the facility as well as the comfort and safety of building occupants. Typically, such control systems are installed in new buildings or as part of a renovation where they replace an outdated control system.

What is Controlled?

Generally, building automation begins with control of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) systems. For instance, the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning (HVAC) system is almost always controlled, including control of its various pieces of equipment such as:

Air-handling units (AHUs)

Roof-top units (RTUs)

Fan coil units (FCUs)

Heat pump units (HPUs)

Variable-air-volume boxes (VAVs)

Chillers (BAS communicates with, but usually these have their own controllers)

Boilers (BAS communicates with, but usually these have their own controllers)

Other systems that are often controlled or integrated for remote monitoring include:

Lighting control is the low-hanging fruit for optimizing building performance Security

Close circuit video (CCTV) Card and keypad access Fire alarm system Elevators/escalators

What is ECAM?



- ► ECAM-Energy Charting and Metrics Tool
 - ECAM is an excel-based tool that is intended to help building owners and operators look at trended data (recommended 5 to 30 minute time interval data measurement) in a series of charts to analyze HVAC component data or utility meter data gathered from the interval meters or a BAS.



Key Features of ECAM

- Pre-processing of data to input occupancy scheduling (e.g., 8:00AM to 5:00PM Mon. through Fri.) and day-type (e.g., weekdays, Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays) information to charts. Thus, the user can look at comparisons between days and hours within days.
 - Filtering data (analyze the data in greater depth) by:
 - Day-type
 - Occupancy schedule
 - Month/year/day
 - Pre/post (energy projects)
- Creation of load profile charts to analyze whole building energy consumption.
- Creation of standard-building PNNL re-tuning charts using trend data from the BAS.



What is the Universal Translator (UT2)?

- ► The Universal Translator (UT2) is a tool that is used to merge data that has inconsistent timestamps or that is located in different workbooks.
 - This tool is frequently used because the output from a BAS varies based on the type of system, and how the trend logs were set up.
 - Example to follow
- Register, download, and install from: http://utonline.org/cms
- ▶ UT2 user guide (as it pertains to use with ECAM) available at:

http://www.pnnl.gov/buildingretuning/documents/pnnl_20948.pdf



Universal Translator is used to merge data from different excel sheets and different timestamps. This is needed because BASs may be providing the data for one component (e.g., AHU) in multiple sheets (e.g., 2).

Also, if the user wants to merge data from more than one component, then he/she will use Universal Translator (UT) again to merge the data from AHU-1, AHU-2, etc.

Source: http://utonline.org/cms/node/103

How do I get a copy of the UT?

Registered users can download the latest version of the Universal Translator.

To register:

Create a new account from at the link above. Click on the "Create new account" link, fill out the account information form, and press the "Create new account" button. An email will be sent to you containing your user name, a temporary password and additional information.

To download the Universal Translator Installer:

From the Home page log in with your new account. After you log in, click on the Downloads link in the "Primary links" menu. On the Downloads page, click the link of the Installer you wish to download. You will be redirected to an article with information regarding the UT version you have chosen. Scroll to the bottom of the page. The installer file is an executable program; just click on it and begin the installation.

		Start Time of data	End Time of data
Excel file 1 (.csv format)	AHU* Supply Air	1/12/2012	1/28/2012
	Temperature	12:00:00AM	6:30:00 PM
Excel file 2 (.csv format)	AHU Mixed Air	1/5/2012	1/26/2012
	Temperature	1:00:00 AM	6:00:00 PM
Excel file 3 (.csv format)	AHU Return Air	1/1/2012	1/31/2012
	Temperature	3:00:00 AM	12:00:00PM
Excel file 4 (.csv format)	AHU Outside Air	1/24/2012	1/26/2012
	Temperature	12:00:00AM	9:00:00 PM
	ach AHU file is in a se rge all files into one e lse UT2.	- AT	book. Max concurre timestamps

Note: UT2 requires that files be imported as comma-separated values (CSV) files.

How do the BAS, ECAM, and UT2 work together? Building Automation System

Building Automation System (BAS)

Universal Translator (UT2)

Energy Charting and Metrics Tool (ECAM)

☐ Controls, manages, and collects data from HVAC components.

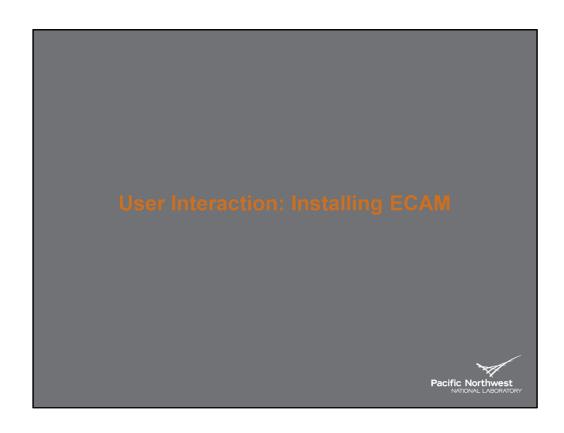
☐ Universal Translator is used to merge data from different excel sheets and data with different timestamps.

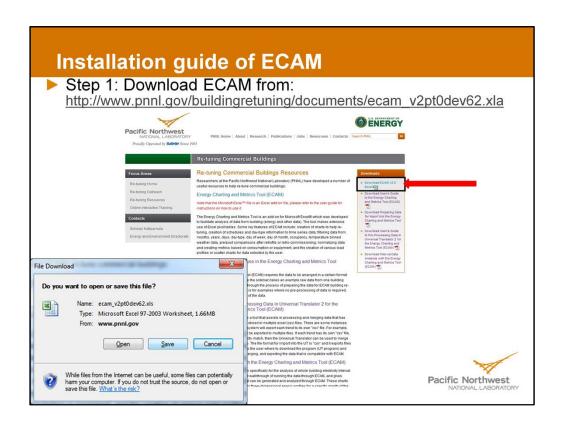
☐ Graphs data from the BAS so the building operator can look at the trend data of HVAC components.

Result:

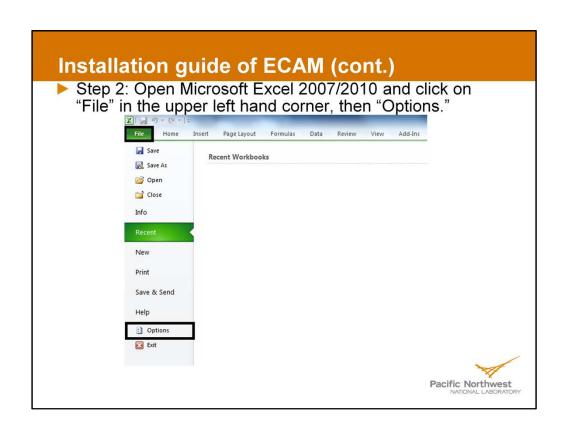
- 1) Building operators and building commissioners can translate data from different BASs into a common energy charting and metrics tool.
- 2) Charting HVAC data can identify improved control opportunities in buildings.

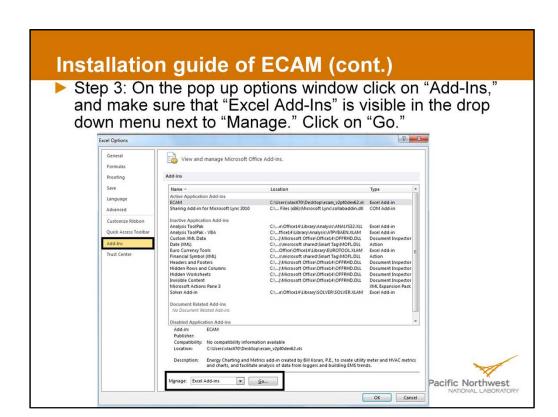


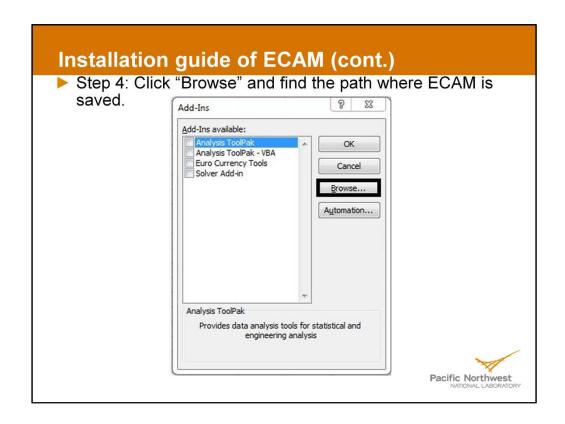




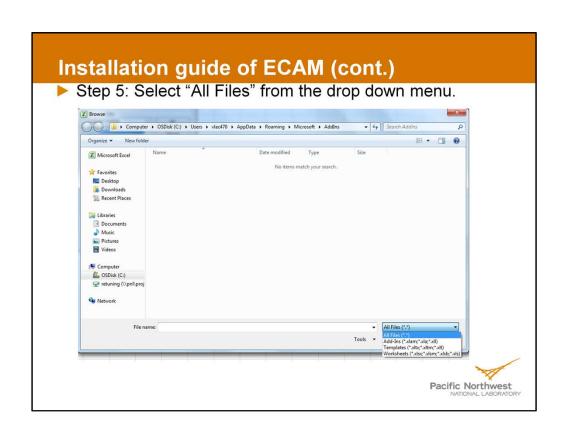
***Click on save, and change the file type from a .xls to a .xla.

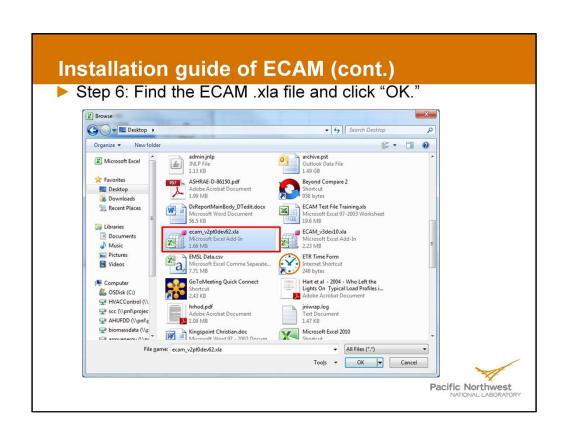




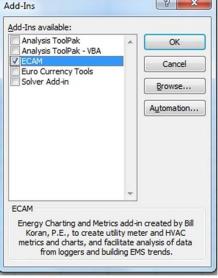


It is easiest to save the version of ECAM to your desktop so you don't have to search for it in the future if/when you have to reinstall ECAM.

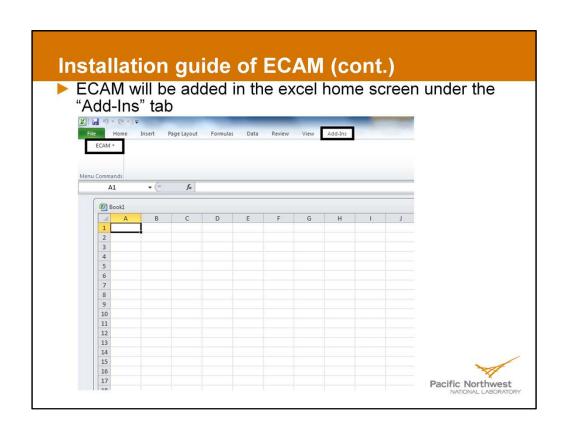


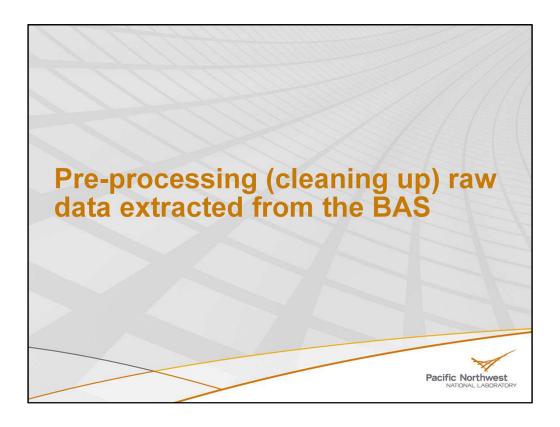


Installation guide of ECAM (cont.) ➤ Step 7: After selecting the ECAM add-in, make sure the check box is checked and click "OK." Add-Ins

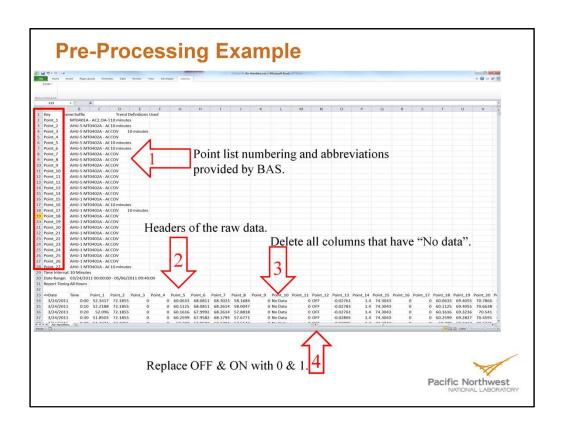


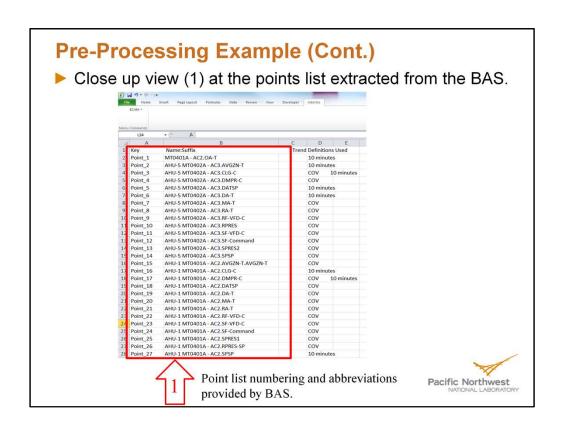


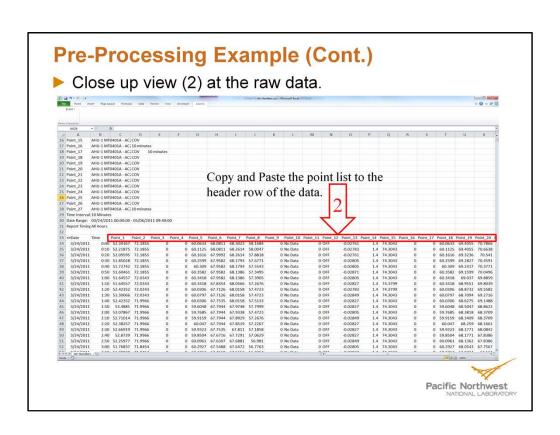


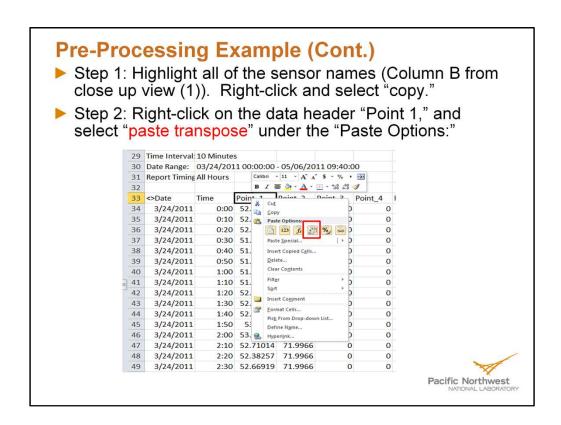


ECAM only accepts a specific form of raw data for processing. The following steps will demonstrate the process for getting a file into the proper ECAM format.

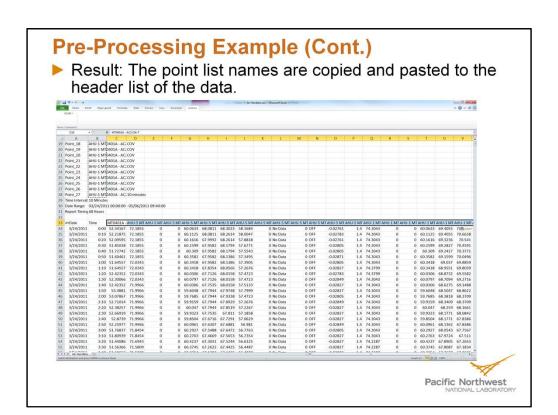






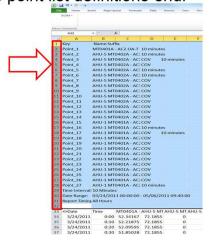


Note: Make sure the number of point names matches from view (1) to view (2) before copying and pasting the header list to the point names



Pre-Processing Example (Cont.)

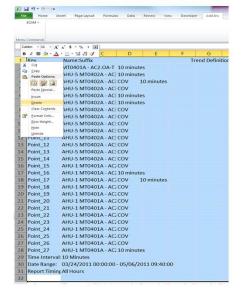
► Step 3: After copying and pasting the point list names, all information above the data header row must be deleted for ECAM to recognize it. Select all rows above this by clicking on the 1st row and drag down until the row where the point list definitions end.





Pre-Processing Example (Cont.)

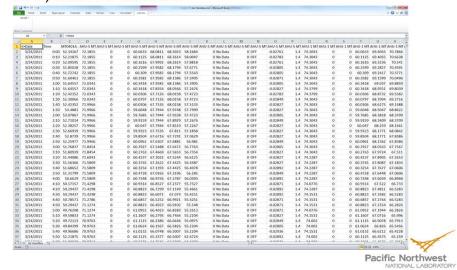
Step 4: Right-click after the rows have been selected and select "delete."

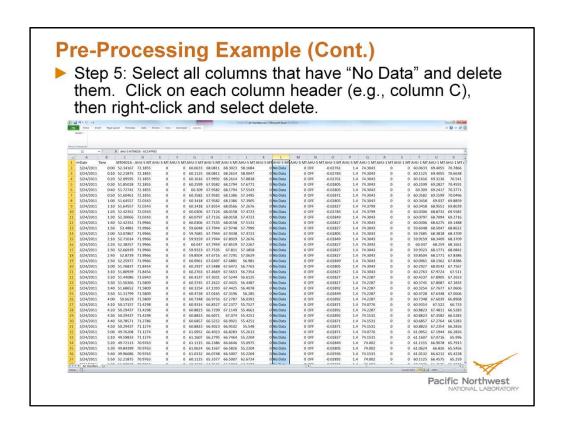




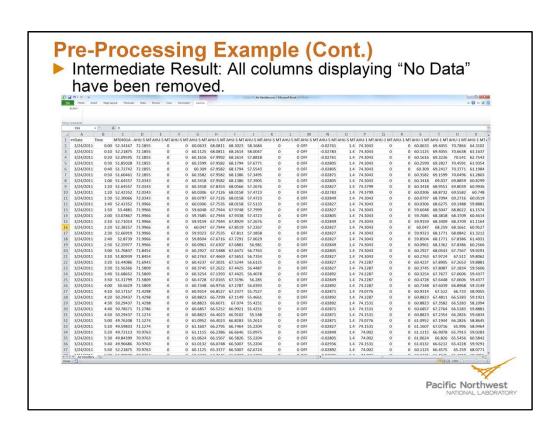
Pre-Processing Example (Cont.)

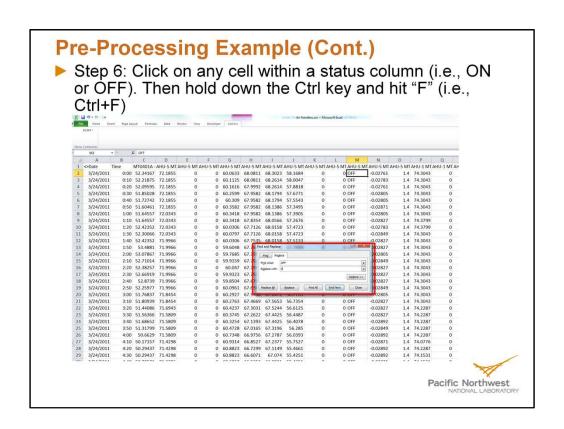
► Intermediate Result: Point descriptions are now deleted, and the data appears at the top of the sheet. Now, all columns with "No Data" and text format (e.g., ON and OFF) must be handled.





Make sure the entire column has "No Data." Sometimes, the trends will start on a delay from one another so there may be data further down the sheet. The goal is to keep as much useful data as possible, but if the majority of the column displays "No Data," then it should be removed completely.





Pre-Processing Example (Cont.)

- Close up view:
 - Step 1: Select the "Replace" tab
 - Step 2: Type "OFF" in the "Find What:" box
 - Step 3: Type "0" in the "Replace with:" box
 - Step 4: Select "Replace All"
 - Repeat steps 1-4 for "ON," but in step 3 replace "0" with "1."

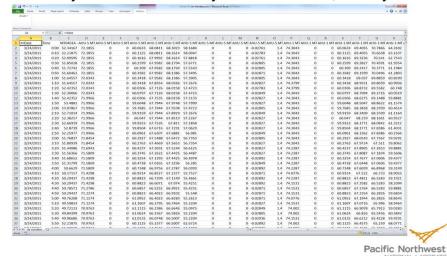


Note: We are replacing "OFF" and "ON" with "0" and "1" respectively because ECAM charting functions only accept numerical values and not text.



Pre-Processing Result

➤ The headers of row 1 contain the names of the sensors. These sensor names will be used later in ECAM, so make sure they are understood by the user. If not, modify them.



Final Result

- 1.) Save the file as extension type xlsx or csv. Recommend saving as extension csv, because it will also work with the Universal Translator if required.
- 2.) The data extracted from the BAS was pre-processed in an excel sheet.
- 3.) The pre-processing consisted of removing rows or columns of "No Data," and substituting equipment status (ON or OFF) with "0" and "1," respectively.
- 4.) Be sure that there are no empty cells within the final excel sheet. If there are, then delete that row. This will help processing in UT2 and ECAM.



All Resources Available at:
www.pnnl.gov/buildingretuning/resources.stm

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