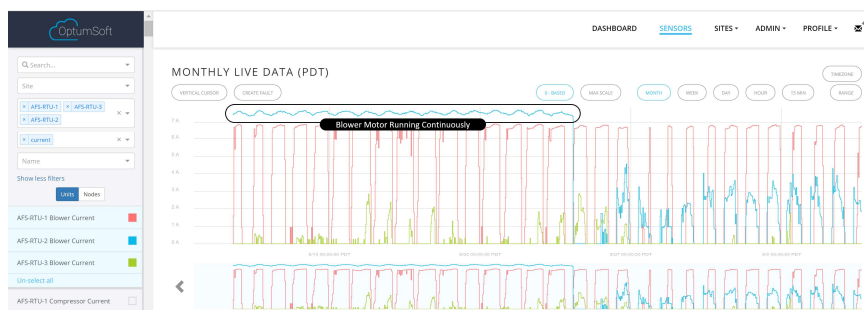


# IoT Helps Protect Film Treasure

## THE CHALLENGE

Air conditioning systems are fundamentally straight forward. The thermostat detects when the temperature is too high or too low and tells the HVAC system to cool or heat the air respectively. At least that is how it is supposed to work. And keeping a constant, predictable temperature in the film vault was exactly what the Austin Film Institute was expecting from their air conditioning system. The motion picture arts records our common history and exposing old film stock to extreme temperatures may cause it to deteriorate to such a state that irreplaceable movies would be lost. Forever. To help protect its film treasure, the Austin Film Institute contacted Comfort Systems to ensure reliable air conditioning.



## THE SOLUTION

Comfort Systems determined that the best way to get 'eyes' on the Film Institute's roof top units was to install OptumSoft SMART HVAC monitoring solution across all their roof top units. And after a few days of data gathering, a disturbing pattern emerged: RTU-2's blower was running *all the time*. Upon learning this, Comfort Systems contacted the customer to verify the thermostat settings. But even when the customer turned off the thermostat completely, the blower kept running. The customer was not happy. This was a formerly undetected problem that needed to be fixed. Comfort Systems sent a HVAC tech on site the very next day. With the OptumSoft data in hand, he quickly identified the system that needed attention. As it turned out, the thermostat worked just fine – but the former building manager had added a wire jumper effectively hot-wiring the blower to run 24x7, - regardless of thermostat settings. Lots of circulated air with a yearly price tag of \$4,533 in electricity consumption.

## THE RESULTS

Once the 'hot-wire' was removed, RTU-2 returned to normal operation. In fact, its blower motor now only ran 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the time. With the SMART HVAC's demonstrated 90% drop in kWh, the Film Institute can now look forward to saving an impressive \$4079.97 per year. All while still protecting Austin's precious film treasure. Well done Comfort Systems.

**S M A R T   H V A C   S U C C E S S   S T O R Y**