The University of Michigan

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North Campus Chiller Project:

In 2003-2004, The University of Michigan moved toward the creation of several regional chiller plants to meet the long term needs for chilled water. The benefits of the North Campus Chiller Plant Project (NCCP) include: energy savings, reduce operation and maintenance costs, increased redundancy and reliabiltiy, reduced proliferation of cooling tower and associated noise. The project included the construction of a new building to house chiller equipment, associated pumps, and cooling towers. In addition, the project included the installation of the primary underground piping system with sufficent capacity to address replacement chillers for existing buildings and anticipated builidings. The NCCP will be flexible in design and construction accommodate future expansion of the plant as necessary.

Project Scope:

For the University of Michigan's new chiller plant project, IPS was responsible for the mechanical piping and equipment installation. IPS installed (3) 1300-ton chillers, cooling towers, pumps and associated process piping for the new chiller plant. IPS also performed the installation of secondary tie-ins at multiple buildings throughout North Campus. The new chiller plant serves all of the North Campus Area. In addition, IPS self-performed the renovation of the boiler in the North Campus Space Research Building. These projects were completed on time with no delays.

Challenges:

The biggest challenge on this project were the tie-ins that had to be made to multiple buildings for the secondary chilled water systems. Most of the tie-ins had to be made over a 1 week period while school was on break. The individual systems had to be shut down, drained, make tie-ins , fill, and vent prior to students returning back to school.

Project Duration: 12 Months
Project Cost: $2.3 Million

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