

## Retrofitting of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering Building, Poznan University of Technology, Poland



### 1 Photo



**Figure 1:** Faculty of Electrical Engineering Building after retrofitting

### 2 Project summary

The building was built in 1975 as a multi-storey, central corridor building for the Faculty of Electrical Engineering. There are 64 classrooms in the building and in total they can accommodate approximately 1900 students. Classrooms occupy about 21.7% of the building area, office rooms 40.7%, corridors 29.7%, while the remaining 7.9% is devoted to social rooms and other remaining purposes.

The project described includes retrofitting of the building envelope (new windows and improving the U-values of walls) and the modernisation of the heating system.

It was completed in November 2001.

### 3 Site

The building is located in Poznan, Poland, near the river Warta. It is surrounded by lower buildings (four-storey) excluding one twin building (they are connected by covered passage with additional lecture rooms).

*Latitude: 52.25 °N, longitude: 16.55 °E, altitude: 94 m.*

Temperate transitional climate.

*Mean annual temperature: 8.0 °C, mean winter temperature: 2.6 °C (October-April)*

### 4 Building description /typology

#### 4.1 Typology / Age

Mega-structure university building. 1975

*Educational level: University*

#### 4.2 General information

*Year of construction: 1975*

*Year of renovation: 2001*

*Total floor area (m<sup>2</sup>): 14 420*

*Classrooms area (m<sup>2</sup>): 3 130*

*Number of pupils: 1 930*

*Number of classrooms: 64*

Typical classroom

*size (m<sup>2</sup>): 49*

*windows/glass area (m<sup>2</sup>): 15 (ca 60% of the outer wall)*

*number of pupils: 36*

*Hours of operation: 12 hours a day, 170 days per year, 1/4 of building;  
8 hours a day, 280 days per year, remaining 3/4 of building.*

#### 4.3 Architectural drawings

*None available*

### 5 Previous heating, ventilation, cooling and lighting systems

*Heating:*

Hot water, two pipe, up-feed, pressurised central heating system with circulation pump and cast iron radiators. Distribution system is divided into two sections (western and eastern), each supplied from the city heat distribution network through the heat exchangers' plant. The lack of thermostatic valves caused random room temperatures and drafts - the only method of temperature regulation was to open or close a window, which sometimes affected air quality.



*Ventilation:*

Natural, every classroom has at least one exhaust grille, fresh air supplied through windows.

Inefficient, demands some attention to windows maintenance - opened windows assure proper amount of supply air to otherwise sealed rooms. Thermal comfort is hard to obtain.

*Lighting:*

Typical fluorescent lamps (ca 80 lumens/Watt).

**6 Retrofit energy saving features**

**6.1 Energy saving concept**

The main goal was to minimise heat losses by improving the building envelope. To assure temperature control in sealed rooms all radiators were equipped with thermostatic valves.

**6.2 Building**

Casing walls between construction ribs were insulated with 10cm of polystyrene (Styrofoam), construction ribs were insulated with 5cm polystyrene. The roof was insulated with 10cm of polystyrene. In every case the insulation was added to the outside.

Old windows (wooden frame, two separate panes) were replaced with new ones (PVC-frame, double glazed sealed units).

**6.3 Heating**

Every plenum heater was equipped with a thermostatic valve.

**7 Resulting Energy Savings**

Energy consumption before and after:

	Before	After
Heating: peak demand	1,954.5 kW	1,383.8 kW
annual consumption	1,841,130 kWh/a	1,303,558k Wh/a

Both initial and resulting energy demands are calculated using technical guidelines which are legally binding in Poland.

(some data from measurements will be available later). Expected energy use will be 70.8% of initial value.

**8 User evaluation**

Indoor air quality

In general terms (*Dry, humid, smelly, etc.*): good if windows are slightly open, stuffy and smelly if windows are closed accidentally (as described above)

<i>Irritations (eyes, nose, throat, skin, ..):</i>	no
<i>Quality of daylight / artificial light:</i>	both good
<i>Sound quality:</i>	good
General feeling:	
<i>General well being:</i>	good
<i>Headache:</i>	no
<i>Difficult to concentrate?</i>	no

*Technical functionality:* thermostatic valves are easy to adjust and provide sufficient temperature control even with various window positions. New windows are easy to operate, providing better natural ventilation.

*Architectural quality:* Improved appearance.



Below: The twin building - Faculty of Mechanical Engineering Building (the same appearance as the Faculty of Electrical Engineering Building before retrofitting)





Faculty of Electrical Engineering  
Building after retrofitting.

## 9 Renovation costs

Specific cost per technology:

Wall insulation:	1 200 000	PLN
Window replacement:	1 300 000	PLN
Roof insulation:	46 000	PLN
Thermostatic valves:	60 000	PLN

## 10 Experiences/Lessons learned

### 10.1 Energy use

Monitored since October 2002 using Kulu software – no conclusions till now

### 10.2 Impact on indoor climate

Thermal:	significant
IAQ:	weak (problems occur less frequently)
Drafts:	significant

### 10.3 Economics

No information

### 10.4 Practical experiences of interest for a broader audience

No information

### 10.5 Resulting design guidance

## 11 General data

### 11.1 Address of project

ul. Piotrowo 3A  
60-965 Poznan  
POLAND

### 11.2 Existing or new case study

Project initiation:

Design completed:

Renovation construction completed: November 2001

Monitoring and evaluation completed:

### 11.3 Date of report / revision no.

15.04.2002

## 12 Acknowledgements

Builder: Jedyńska Poznań S.A.

Architect: Małgorzata Matusiewicz, Małgorzata Schmidt

Engineer:

National, international support programmes:

Author (of this description): Fabian Cybichowski, Radosław Górzński

## 13 References

Jarosław Fidor, master thesis "The multi-criteria analysis of thermal modernization and heat source selection for Poznań University of Technology buildings."