Qualifying Your BACnet Provider

Questions

- o Can you provide BACnet references?
- o How many other BACnet projects have you done?
- o Do you have another local, BACnet project I could visit?
- o What proprietary processes, objects, or properties exist in your system?
- o To what extent do you take advantage of BACnet services in your products?
- o Where can I find the latest PIC (protocol implementation conformance) statements for your products?
- o How easy is it for me to make changes to the installed system?
    - ▪ Difficulty in changing schedules is always a concern.
    - ▪ Difficulty in changing the control strategy such as adding more graphics for example:
        - • Do I have to go back to controls contractor?
        - • Do I have to go back to manufacturer?
- o What happens if my workstation PC or a controller fails?
- o What happens after a power outage?
    - ▪ Does system come back automatically?
    - ▪ Is there reset procedure?
    - ▪ Is it necessary for front end (OWS) to send down code again to controllers?
- o Do you offer service contracts?
    - ▪ If so, how do I know you have sufficient resources to fulfill its obligations (such as response time following an emergency)?
- o What king of training or certifications have you had?
- o How easy is it for me to get replacement equipment?
- o Do you have access to ancillary equipment?

Considerations

- o How much do you want to be able to do yourself (on-site)?
    - ▪ And, therefore, what kind of training is available to you or your staff?
- o If you're involved in LEED or other green initiatives, consider the documentation requirements and find out how data collection & archiving is achieved.