

Using Advanced Temperature Sensors to Reduce the Workload of NHS Staff: Part 1



FilesThruTheAir™ temperature sensors can systematically collect and log temperature data required for NHS Trusts to adhere to government legislation and report data for Estates Return Information Collection (ERIC). This releases ward staff from having to carry out manual temperature checks and reports.

Estates Return Information Collection (ERIC) is a mandatory collection of data for all NHS Trusts ¹. The ERIC data covers information relating to the costs of providing, maintaining, and servicing the NHS Estate ². As part of the safety data included in this, NHS Trusts are required to report the number of overheating occurrences experienced annually ³.

According to the Department of Health and Social Care, HTM07-02, page 23 - Part A, section 1.4.16 ⁴ "for each clinical area, decisions about setting environmental conditions should only be made after careful judgements as to the vulnerability and duration of stay of the intended patients. In all clinical areas, year round internal temperature monitoring is recommended. At any time of the year where temperatures are found to exceed 26°C, a risk assessment should be carried out and appropriate action taken to ensure the safety of vulnerable patients"

Overall, this means that NHS Trusts are required to continually monitor the temperature of "clinical areas" (anywhere directly related to clinical care and/or where patients and visitors have access, receive and recover from their treatment and are at risk), reporting any instances when this exceeds 26°C ³.

Currently, many NHS sites do not have a formal system in place to help them monitor and record this data. Instead, the responsibility often falls to the busy NHS staff on wards to manually check temperature gauges and report any overheating instances that they observe. Not only is this laborious and time-consuming, but it's easily-missed and therefore unreliable.

FilesThruTheAir is an industry leader in the design, manufacture and distribution of advanced sensors and data loggers across the globe. We offer a variety of different temperature-measuring devices that are perfectly-suited to automating temperature monitoring across healthcare establishments.



Industry Application Article



Our highest-recommended product for monitoring the temperature of clinical areas is [EL-WiFi-T](#).

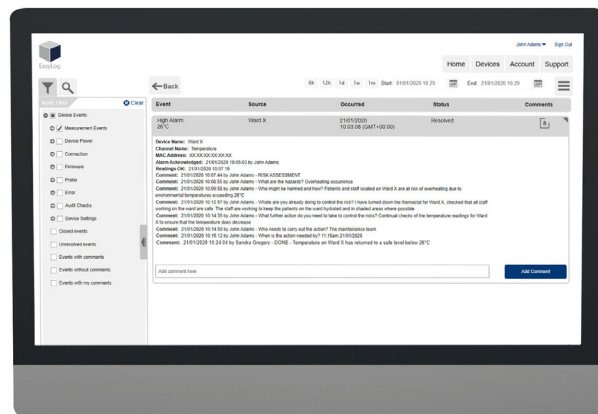
This Wi-Fi connected data logger measures and displays ambient temperature on its LCD screen, as well as uploading periodic readings to the [EasyLog Cloud](#).

The EasyLog Cloud is an easy-to-use, cloud-based system (accessible online or via free mobile app) that stores all of the readings uploaded by a user's data loggers. The user can edit device settings, set customisable alert limits, and configure email alert notifications to multiple addresses for whenever their limits are reached. Furthermore, they can view, graph, analyse and report their data 24/7, online, from anywhere in the world.

For an NHS Trust, installing an EL-WiFi-T for each clinical space can offer significant enhancements over manual temperature checks carried out by ward staff.

Firstly, sites would never miss a critical event, with reliable, periodic sampling. Even if the Wi-Fi network fails, the device will still log data and upload this to the cloud when a connection is re-established. In the meantime, you would receive a "connection lost" notification via email and be able to temporarily revert to manual temperature checks using the device's LCD screen.

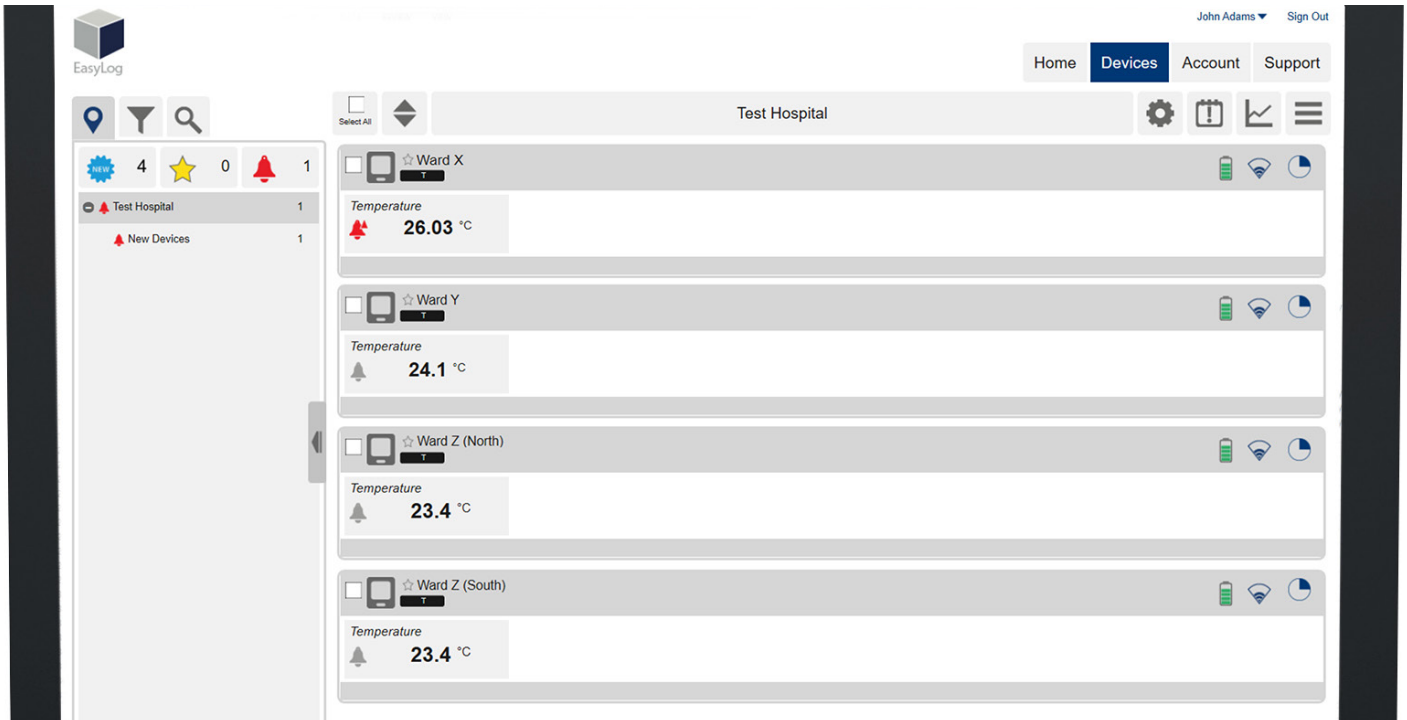
Secondly, the responsibility of temperature control can be completely shifted to small maintenance or H&S teams, freeing up the staff on wards to care for patients. NHS Trusts, or chains of healthcare establishments, can set up multiple accounts for members of their maintenance teams at each site, organise devices by location and configure notifications to the maintenance staff responsible for each site. Each staff member can then receive notifications relevant to their site, acknowledge alarms, and even evidence that a basic risk assessment has been carried out by writing comments against logged events - all in the EasyLog Cloud platform (either via PC or free mobile app). This provides them with mobile access to fast-alerts, prompting them to react to temperature issues and follow the necessary procedure to keep staff and patients safe and comfortable.



Industry Application Article



At a top level, the EasyLog Cloud enables the user to monitor the temperature of every clinical space across multiple geographic locations all in one user-friendly system; ideal for producing organisation reports or analysing site efficiency.



When it comes to reporting the annual ERIC figures for NHS Trusts, it's as simple as viewing and exporting the number of 'High Alarms' that have occurred over the one year period. You will then have a total number of overheating occurrences that you can submit as part of your ERIC data.

Event	Category	Time Zone	Date/Time	Status	Comments	Extended Information	Readings OK	Alarm Acknowledged
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	18/12/2019 11:11:06	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward X	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	18/12/2019 12:02:05	Alarm Acknowledged: 18/12/2019 11:15:56 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	02/11/2019 13:04:37	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (North)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	02/11/2019 13:28:14	Alarm Acknowledged: 02/11/2019 13:15:02 by Sandra Gregory
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	12/08/2019 17:51:28	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (South)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	12/08/2019 17:59:58	Alarm Acknowledged: 12/08/2019 18:00:59 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	12/08/2019 16:48:21	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (North)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	12/08/2019 17:41:51	Alarm Acknowledged: 12/08/2019 16:54:09 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	01/08/2019 17:00:48	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (North)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	01/08/2019 17:23:58	Alarm Acknowledged: 01/08/2019 17:04:39 by Peter O'Reilly
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	29/07/2019 11:35:08	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward X	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	29/07/2019 11:56:07	Alarm Acknowledged: 29/07/2019 11:42:46 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	15/06/2019 13:24:29	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (North)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	15/06/2019 14:12:53	Alarm Acknowledged: 15/06/2019 13:29:23 by Peter O'Reilly
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	13/06/2019 13:01:20	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (North)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	13/06/2019 13:10:40	Alarm Acknowledged: 13/06/2019 13:10:40 by Sandra Gregory
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	12/06/2019 12:53:11	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Z (North)	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	12/06/2019 13:09:21	Alarm Acknowledged: 12/06/2019 12:55:58 by Sandra Gregory
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	15/03/2019 13:10:24	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Y	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	15/03/2019 13:22:22	Alarm Acknowledged: 15/03/2019 13:24:12 by Sandra Gregory
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	15/02/2019 15:04:56	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward X	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	15/02/2019 15:31:01	Alarm Acknowledged: 15/02/2019 15:08:56 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	21/01/2019 11:54:28	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward X	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	21/01/2019 12:06:43	Alarm Acknowledged: 21/01/2019 11:59:15 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	21/01/2019 10:46:28	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward Y	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	21/01/2020 10:49:43	Alarm Acknowledged: 21/01/2019 10:55:03 by Peter O'Reilly
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	29/01/2019 10:03:08	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward X	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	29/01/2020 10:07:19	Alarm Acknowledged: 21/01/2020 10:05:03 by John Adams
High Alarm	Device Events	GMT+00:00	20/01/2019 16:18:56	Resolved	8 Device Name: Ward X	MAC Address: XXXXXXXXXX	20/01/2020 17:04:28	Alarm Acknowledged: 20/01/2020 16:19:19 by John Adams



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FilesThruTheAir want our customers to get the ideal product for their own unique temperature monitoring needs. We believe our best product for healthcare environments is EL-WiFi-T, but if it doesn't seem right for you, contact our knowledgeable team anyway because we have a variety of similar products that could be what you're looking for. These include vaccine data loggers, offline USB data loggers, panel display systems and more.

We can schedule video call demonstrations, visit you in person, or even set up trial accounts – whatever is needed to give you complete peace of mind that you are investing in the ideal system to monitor temperature across your healthcare estate.

CONTACT OUR TEAM TODAY:

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¹ NHS Digital (2019) Estates Returns Information Collection Summary page and dataset for ERIC 2018/19. Available at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/estates-returns-information-collection/england-2018-19> [Accessed: 20th January 2020].

² NHS Digital (2019) England, Historical data files: 1999-2000 to 2013-14. Available at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/estates-returns-information-collection/england-historical-data-files-1999-2000-to-2013-14> [Accessed: 20th January 2020].

³ NHS Digital (2019) Estates Return Information Collection (ERIC) 2018/19. Available at: <https://digital.nhs.uk/data-and-information/publications/statistical/estates-returns-information-collection/england-2018-19> [Accessed: 20th January 2020].

⁴ Department of Health and Social Care (2019) Making energy work in healthcare (HTM 07-02). Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-energy-work-in-healthcare-htm-07-02> [Accessed: 20th January 2020].



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