

Building Automation & Controls in Light Commercial Buildings

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New BSRIA Worldwide Market Intelligence (WMI) study covering Germany, Italy, France, and the UK estimates the market for building automation controls in light commercial buildings at EUR 275 million in 2022.

The building automation software, controllers, hardware, and field devices installed in light commercial buildings account for a significant share of overall BACS product sales in the four major European markets estimated at EUR 1.1 billion.

Most BACS products installed in light commercial buildings are found in offices, with 40-50% share, followed by hotels, education, health, retail and mixed-use buildings with some variation in each country.

It is also worth noting that building automation controls products sold to the light commercial building segment are expected to grow at a higher rate than the overall BACS market, particularly in 2024 and 2025 with 11% and 13% respectively. Most of the European economies showed good economic growth in 2021, but Russia's invasion of Ukraine is increasingly impacting economies in 2022.

On the positive side, the European Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) drives the adoption of BACS to optimise energy use through better automation, control, and monitoring. In December 2021, the European Commission proposed a new directive that states that non-residential buildings will have to be renovated and improved to at least energy performance grade F by 2027 and grade E by 2030 as part of European Union's net zero-emission strategy.

Over half the sales are accounted for by controllers and hardware, followed by field devices, and then software.

BSRIA WMI's BACS in Light Commercial Buildings study includes products falling within the following definitions:

- Professionally installed systems.
- A minimum of two or more interconnected systems (HVAC, lighting, blinds, occupancy sensors, security etc.).
- Open systems/platforms with protocols such as KNX, BACnet and LON.
- Wired controllers/systems with the capability to integrate wireless devices and cloud connection.
- Most systems installed in buildings with floor space below 25,000 sq. ft or 2,323 m2.

The value is in Manufacturer Selling Prices (MSP) covering products (not labour). The study does not cover plug & play products installed in the residential market, nor does it cover systems connected to big plant equipment.

The study is part of BSRIA WMI's **BACS and Smart building portfolio**, which includes world studies on building automation and publications on **field devices** (valves, actuators and sensors). BSRIA WMI is a leading provider of studies covering building services such as **structured cabling**, building controls, **air conditioning**, **ventilation**, refrigeration & refrigerants, and **heat pumps**.