

Italian Food Processing Company uses Movicon SCADA Software to Centralize Monitoring and Control of Potato Processing

RESULTS

- Centralized disparate stand-alone PLC-based systems to a single control platform allows continuous monitoring and control for enhanced visibility
- Improved efficiency and reduced potential error by automating previously manual data collection and storage
- Significant cost reduction as a result of automated energy monitoring and control



APPLICATION

Food processing

CUSTOMER

Pizzoli S.p.A., San Pietro in Casale, Bologna, Italy, the largest Italian potato processor, both for fresh potatoes and frozen French fries.

CHALLENGE

The highly disparate stand-alone systems that were used to control production lines at the Pizzoli plant in San Pietro were completely isolated and operators had to physically go to each individual machine and regulate each production parameter manually, an enormous strain on personnel, productivity and accuracy. A huge amount of data relating to the plant was being collected manually several times a day and entered onto an Excel spreadsheet for analysis, a system fraught with potential human error.

The multiphase production process included machines for washing the potatoes, as well as ovens and fryers, all of which consumed large amounts of electricity and water. The lack of energy consumption metrics from these machines was a matter of great concern as there was no way to monitor or control the high production costs.

“The strength of Movicon lies in its flexibility of use and ability to connect devices of all different makes using different communication protocols. This makes it ideal for integrating disparate subsystems and managing modern and efficient factories.”

Ivan Tedeschi
CEO
I.T. Technologies

SOLUTION

Pizzoli wanted to completely automate these procedures as a means of centralizing the monitoring and control of its production line processes, increasing the efficiency of data collection and analysis and reducing its energy consumption and costs. I.T. Technologies – an Italian company that designs and installs software solutions and electric panels in the industrial automation sector – was asked to provide an automation solution. The Movicon™ platform from Emerson was selected as the supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) software for the plant.

With Movicon SCADA, all the various automation systems used in the plant to control the production process were centralized. A production process data control dashboard allows operators to modify parameters directly from the control room. The plant's process data is stored on a SQL database and used for creating comparison reports and Excel work spreadsheets automatically.

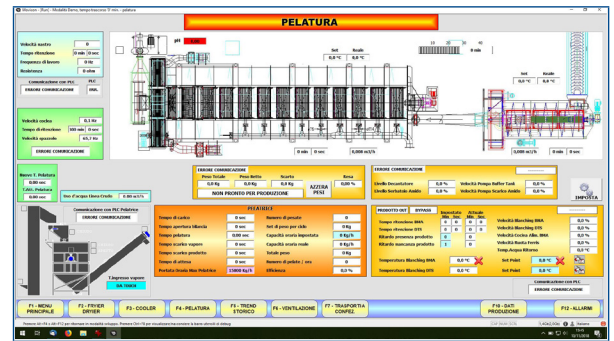
The complicated procedure of processing and storing the enormous amount of data produced by the plant has been simplified by using the integrated functions of Movicon SCADA. Production data and process line status can be viewed in detail and controlled from the home screen page. With a quick glance, operators can visualize process parameters, and be alerted of any anomalies or machine malfunctions.

Power consumption metrics are displayed using real-time trends and reports. This enables operators and engineers to make informed decisions on necessary interventions required to obtain greater efficiency, such as the need for load balancing across machines, machine maintenance or detecting and preventing impending failure.

RESOURCES

Movicon

www.Emerson.com/Movicon



Production line processes can be viewed in detail.

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