The application of ABB’s LifeCycleIndex™ supported the migration of the control engineering installations of the blast-furnace cement at the CEMEX HüttenZement GmbH in Dortmund. ABB’s analysis and consulting expertise has led to significant improvements in functionality and future-proofness.

CEMEX produces and distributes cement, ready-mixed concrete, aggregates and associated building materials in more than 50 countries. The company currently employs more than 57,000 people throughout the world. With an annual sales volume of more than US$ 21 billion, CEMEX is one of the three biggest cement manufacturers in the world (position as of 2008).

The modern-day CEMEX HüttenZement GmbH in Dortmund has trusted in ABB technology for production control since 1982. Procontic DP800, Master Piece 200, Master-View 800 and Advant OCS were the control systems which ensured a smooth production flow.

Modernization has culminated in the migration of the Advant OCS operating level to ABB’s System 800xA. For the analysis, ABB’s LifeCycleIndex™ was used to determine the productivity status and to identify potentials for improvement in the areas of technology, plant supervision and productivity management.

The migration to the new system has helped to reach the goals of reduced down times and increased availability.
ABB technology was used for the modernization of the control engineering systems of the milling and mixing plant. With the LifeCycleIndex™ ABB service control identified the strengths and weaknesses of the control system. ABB’s expertise led to a system design with increased availability, functionality and future-proof system technology.

Scope of supply

– LifeCycleIndex™ system analysis
– Identification of plant goals
– Visualization of current system productivity status
– Visualization of target productivity profile (= benefit of migration)
– List of actions and schedule of migration execution
– All documents as a written report

Feature

In a structured interview with the plant management, ABB’s life cycle manager identified the current productivity status in the areas of technological fitness (HMI, controller, network and I/O level), plant supervision (qualification and training status) and the process management (prevention, emergency and life cycle management). The interview was supported by the LifeCycleIndex™ tool to get a graphical view of the plant’s total productivity status.

The evaluation of the different productivity dimensions led to a catalogue of more than 15 recommendations to improve performance regarding the overall plant’s goals. The recommendations visualised the benefits of migration to a modern control technology, identified the “hot spots” of necessary actions and delivered a schedule of implementation.

Benefits

– Detailed system status report and activity benefit visualization
– Argument reference for investment planning and budgeting
– Multi-annual execution schedule for implementation
– Safe pathway to maintain productivity and a future-proof system design

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