Application Guide

Low Level Conductivity Monitoring in Water Treatment Processes



The illustration above shows a simple demineralisation plant where anions are exchanged with hydroxyl ions and cations are exchanged with hydrogen ions (by the use of ion exchange resins) to produce pure, mineral-free water. ABB conductivity monitors are used for continuous monitoring of conductivity at all stages in the treatment process. Regeneration of the ion exchange resins is a separate process using ABB multi-electrode systems; refer to AG/RBRWT for details of this procedure.

ABB Instrumentation



Why monitor for conductivity in water treatment processes ?

Why use ABB Instrumentation ?

- The customer needs:
- To detect resin exhaustion and to ensure the process water is pure.
- To ensure that the plant operates at the maximum efficiency.
- To allow the plant to be maintained to specific standards.
- ABB offer greater security at a lower cost by having:
 - a worldwide network of companies and agents to ensure backup in most areas,
 - proven reliability over 100 years of process instrumentation experience,
 - over 40 years experience in on-line conductivity measurement,
 - full installation, commissioning and routine servicing facilities available (in the UK and some other countries this is covered by the *Assist* [™] Customer Support Programme).
- Comprehensive range of field-proven conductivity cells available.
- Our cells have been successfully used in kidney dialysis machines for more than 15 years with tens of thousands installed.
- Our transmitters are easily converted for use in high level/multi-electrode, conductivity applications and pH and dissolved oxygen applications.
- Transmitters and cell designed and manufactured by same company.

What ABB products are suitable ?

Model 4620/25 Series Conductivity Transmitters and Type 2042/2078 Conductivity Cells:

- well proven electronics,
- IP66 enclosure suitable for installation in the most demanding environments,
- easy to read, backlit LCD display and customised display with user friendly software,
- user selectable 4-language display English, German, French, Spanish,
- electronic sophistication permits 100m separation, even for the most sensitive ranges (0 to 0.1 μ S/cm),
- true multi-range flexibility without recalibration,
- unique, highly accurate/repeatable cell contacts (±1%) means that cells are interchangeable without recalibration,
- ultra-pure water temperature compensation corrects for changes in conductivity in both the impurities and the pure water,
- our universal transmitter, covers many applications from ultra-pure water to liquids with conductivity up to 10,000µS/cm.

Other ABB monitoring capabilities suitable for Water Treatment processes ?

Analytical Applications:

- Regeneration of the resin beds in both make-up Water Treatment and Condensate Polishing Plants using 4621/26 multi-electrode systems.
- pH monitoring using type 4630/35 transmitters and associated electrode systems.
- Sodium monitoring using type 8036 Sodium Monitors.
- Silica monitoring using type 8241 Silica Monitors.

Industrial Applications:

Recorders and recorder/controllers (PR100, C1900, C100, C150, C200, C300).

Flow Applications:

- MagMaster flowmeters.
- Type 600T Smart pressure transmitters.
- ABB conductivity cells and transmitters are usually mounted near the sampling point (wall mounted version).
- Flow line cells are usually mounted vertically with the sample flow entering at the bottom – this minimises problems with air bubbles.

It may be necessary to fit a needle valve upstream of the cell to ensure the sample flow remains within the required limits.





Installation

AG/LLWTC Issue 1



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