

## Freelance – Distributed control system for process applications At full pressure for boilers with Freelance control



**The boiler manufacturer, Osby Parca has not been hit by the weak economic climate – quite the opposite. The USA market is crying out for solid fuel boilers for renewable energy and there work is at high pressure in the factory. At the heart of the boilers in ABB's Freelance control system is contributing to a high degree of efficiency and accessibility over and above what is normal.**

The smell of welding gas is unmistakable in Osby-Parca's factory. Concentrated and silent professional workers stand, sit or lie by large cylinders of sheet metal that are to become solid fuel boilers.

"We have an incredible high level of skill in our personnel; all of them are qualified professional workers," says Martin Nilsson, design manager at Osby Parca.

While many other industries have been battling the economic crisis, the boiler manufacturing company in Osby in Northern Skåne has fared wonderfully well. The management of the company recognized the increased demand in the USA at an early stage and obtained ASMR certification, a quality stamp that is required to deliver boiler to the American market.

"This has provided us with several important orders and with this certification in our hands, the door to a lot of countries has been opened. In addition to the USA, we have also noticed great interest from Australia, England and Spain. Our exports that are at around 20% will take a real upward hop during the next few years," predicts Dennis Eliasson, site manager and marketing manager.

### Advanced control equipment

The products are energy efficient with a degree of efficiency that is a little more than 90 percent for the solid fuel boilers and an accessibility that makes stoppages a very rare occurrence.

"We are carrying out constant improvement work. Among other things, our efficient convection technology and advanced control equipment is what has made us successful," says Martin Nilsson.

ABB that delivers control and automatic control systems, frequency converters and miscellaneous low-voltage devices is a key supplier. Osby Parca purchases two different controllers from the Freelance product family, the AC 800F and AC 700F controllers.

"In the beginning, we only purchased AC 800F for our larger boilers and had another supplier for the smaller boilers. When ABB expanded with AC 700F, it was a perfect fit for our smaller boilers since it was better than those of its competitor. A major advantage is that the systems are built from the same platform entailing that we can use the same software and reuse the application created with AC 800F in an application with AC 700F so that even this will work in our larger installations."

Service Manager, Håkan Svärd emphasizes the functionality and accessibility in the systems.

"They are user-friendly, they malfunction very rarely and we get good support. The fact that ABB is a global actor is also of great significance. e.g. that they are represented in the USA and provide support for the Freelance systems there."

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#### A good dialog

Martin Nilsson also points out that Osby Parca has a good dialog with ABB that is an important partner in the development work. And ABB’s salesman, Henrik Persson does his utmost to make sure things work.

“Osby Parca is an important OEM customer for us. At present, we are investing a little extra in Freelance and we can see a large market ahead of us where we were previously not represented. We have invited representatives from Osby Parca down to ABB’s factory in Germany where Freelance is manufactured in order for them to have a direct dialog with product managers and to explain their specific needs and requirements,” says Henrik Persson.

Osby Parca’s service manager, Håkan Svård and electrical design engineer, Fredrik Carlsson think that Freelance is an easy system to work with and they get the support of electrician, Johan Johansson.



However, technology is not the only important thing; logistics is just as important.

“A delay of components means that we will not be able to finish building the boiler and our personnel will be idle and then be forced to work overtime when the delivery arrives. We will also risk having to pay penalties to our customer if the delivery is delayed,” says Martin Nilsson.

For this reason, Henrik Persson is always in contact with purchasing manager, Louise Gustafsson keeping a check on deliveries.

“We have developed the routines for logistics and goods receiving, but are working towards these being even better,” says Louise Gustafsson.

“Our objective is to find standards with regard to both technology and logistics,” says Henrik Persson.

## OSBY Parca

- Osby Parca has a comprehensive program for the production of hot water and steam.
- The range includes electric boilers, oil and gas boilers as well as solid fuel boilers in sizes from an electric boiler of 36 kW to an oil boiler of 16 kW.
- Customers consist of anything from individual pipe-fitters to industries and district heating plants.
- Osby Parca has 55 employees and the company is part of Enertech AB.

## ABB’s supply

- DCS System Freelance
- AC 700F and AC 800F controllers
- I/O boards and software for configuring and monitoring
- Frequency converter ACS550
- Miscellaneous low-voltage products





Soon an installation from Osby Parca will provide the inhabitants of Broby with district heating.  
From the left: Louise Gustafsson, Fredrik Carlsson, Martin Nilsson, Håkan Svård, all from Osby Parca, and Henrik Persson from ABB.

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