

Industrial^{IT} Success Story

FANAPEL, Uruguay



FANAPEL's pulp & paper mill alongside the Plate River

Industrial^{IT} provides the first step towards a truly open system at leading pulp and paper mill

FANAPEL is the largest pulp and paper mill in Uruguay, South America. Over 100 years old, the mill is located in the very heart of the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) by the port of Juan Lacaze on the Plate River, only 150 km from the city of Montevideo and 50 km from the city of Buenos Aires. Employing over 400 people, FANAPEL produces pulp and manufactures paper for printing, writing and wrapping, as well as the coated paper it specializes in, with annual sales totaling over 50 million USD.

A traditional user of Foxboro I/A control systems exclusively, FANAPEL wanted to embrace the open architecture concept for control systems. They envisioned a plant where products from different automation manufacturers work together seamlessly.

When the need arose to install a new operator console for their recovery boiler, another Foxboro workstation was the easiest option. Instead, they decided to put those open architecture principles into practice. ABB's Industrial IT framework, with its OPC connectivity and user-friendly object technology, fulfilled these requirements with a cost-effective solution.

Key reasons why FANAPEL chose ABB's Industrial IT were:

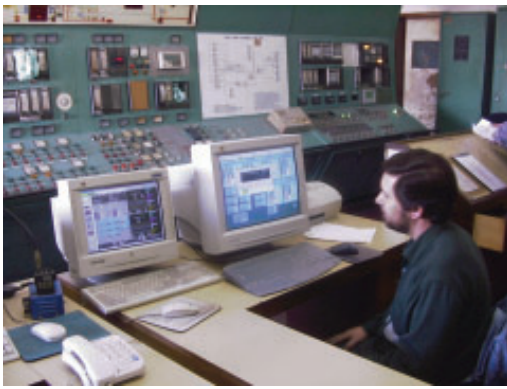
- Open system concept/OPC connectivity
- Windows-based user-friendly engineering platform
- Aspect Object™ technology for information management
- Low cost of ownership plus scalable system

Operate IT Process Portal was their first step into the open architecture philosophy. The communication with the existing Foxboro I/A system was achieved through a third-party OPC server over a standard fiber optic Ethernet network. Operators in the control room supervise Foxboro controllers through the ABB console.



FANAPEL's recovery boiler





Control room for the recovery boiler with FOXBORO's (left) and ABB's (right) operator workstations side by side, together with FANAPEL's application developer

The flexible Graphics Builder tool from Operate IT enables freedom of choice when creating operator displays, either emulating Foxboro's own or customizing the display to specific needs. In this way, the impact of changing the user interface could be minimized. OPC as the communication protocol assured short update intervals. Sound alarms and event printing proved a useful improvement for operators over the previous system and the possibility to transfer information in well-known formats (Microsoft Word or Excel) through the existing plant network. This improvement was also appealing to supervisors and managers.

As proof of the user-friendly nature of the Aspect Object technology of Industrial IT, the application was entirely developed by the customer with very little required training; this fact was well appreciated by managers.



Close-up of both workstations, ABB's Industrial IT (right) emulating FOXBORO's faceplates (left)

In a recent upgrade project, Control IT AC800M controllers and S800 I/O modules are following the same path, building downward to the plant floor level from the operator console.



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