ABB Solves Problems for Polimeri-Europa

When polymer refiner Polimeri-Europa decided to upgrade its control system, ABB provided what the industry-leader required.

Benefits
- Open Environment
- Aspect Objects Technology
- Cost-Effectiveness
- Long-term Reliability
- Maintenance Level Benefits: Easy access to pertinent asset data
- Operations Level Benefits: Improved graphics and information such as operating procedures
- Engineering Level Benefits: Higher control system database accuracy

Background
The control system technology in Polimeri-Europa’s Baytown, Texas plant was based on its sister plant in Ravenna, Italy, which started using ABB’s Symphony control system 1984. That technology was brought to the Baytown refinery when it was constructed in 1992.

Toward the end of the year 2000, Polimeri-Europa (formerly EniChem), decided to upgrade the console system at Baytown.

The Solution
Polimeri-Europa enhanced their Symphony control system with ABB’s Industrial IT technology. ABB’s Aspect Object™ technology - the ability to link aspects of pertinent databases to plant assets, or objects – was also a key factor in the Polimeri-Europa’s decision to go with ABB.

“We chose the open environment system due the aspects that are available with linking all of the plant data together,” said Polimeri-Europa’s Process engineer, Rob Saunders. “That includes our maintenance systems, drawings, SOPs and our ISO 9000. We were able to bring all of it together to the level of the console for the operator.”

Smooth Conversion through Careful Planning
Rob describes the careful planning that ensured a smooth upgrade: “After the conversion was done we brought the project to Baytown. We connected to our new Ethernet system we designed for this, and installed clients at the operator consoles in read-only mode.

“Once we had the parallel mode in operation (running the old & the new) it was very easy for the operators to ask us for a button to take them to another view, or a specific report on a specific page. It was very easy to accommodate
individual operator’s requests to personalize their views. With this ABB system, they had their changes in five minutes. Operators aren’t always open to change. When you introduce changes like we’ve done, they’re not always happy. But I’ve had no negative comments about this product.”

Looking Ahead

“ABB’s commitment to our future here at Polimeri-Europa is something we trust in. We’ve seen that they’re coming out with several new lines of products to connect to the system that we have now and we’re looking forward to moving on with ABB.”

Evolving Your Control System to Industrial IT

Customers all over the world improve performance and lower life cycle costs by building upon their existing ABB systems. Add the technological advances of ABB’s Industrial IT offerings to get even more return from the systems you have.

For more information on ABB control systems, call us at: 1.800.922.2475 (or if not in the US: 585.273.6417), email us at: industrialitsolutions@us.abb.com, or log on to: www.abb.com/controlsystems.

For more information on how ABB’s Industrial IT technology can be employed to solve your chemical processing issues, visit us at: www.abb.com/refining