GLOSING THE GEOGRAPHICAL GAP WITH DIGITALIZATION H. WILKINSON 2024

SEAMLESS INTEGRATION OF ADVANCED DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

In 1959, the West Family brought their dedication to crafting quality artisanal meats to British Columbia, Canada, establishing Helmuts Sausage Kitchen. Today, the family owns establishments in Vernon and Kelowna, as well as a recently introduced processing facility in Vernon. The state-of-the-art processing plant, spanning 25,000 square feet, allowed President Helmut West Jr. to modernize operations and meet surging production demands.



Collaborating with Oxford Energy
Solutions (OES) and implementing
Oxford's entirely digitized Low-Pressure
Platform (LPP™) integrated with the
Sensori™ building automation system
(BAS) offered an advanced refrigeration
management solution. The platform
ensures enhanced performance and
energy efficiency. It aligns with
sustainability objectives, reducing both
financial and environmental costs
associated with processing operations.

Normally, location is a crucial consideration for equipment installation and commissioning, raising sustainability concerns and costs. Long-distance travel for commissioning equipment can increase costs and result in delays and productivity losses, affecting both businesses and stakeholders. Overcoming the geographical gap between the Vernon processing plant and OES, the collaboration maximized Oxford's pre-configured Plug & Play digital platform and remote technologies, highlighting the efficiency and simplicity of a fully integrated, digitalized system.

Through complete digitalization, projects achieve unparalleled efficiency. OES

equipment arrives with pre-loaded settings and pre-charged components, simplifying connection and reducing the need for extensive modification during commissioning. This streamlined setup, detailed instructions, and automated software enable local companies to handle installation and wiring, cutting resource consumption and labor costs. Faster deployment means less downtime and greater cost savings.



DIGITALIZING THE PLANT

In addition to a streamlined commissioning process, a digitalized system offers advanced management capabilities far surpassing those of conventional systems. It enables a fully integrated processing plant where fewer personnel can manage operations more efficiently than traditional manual methods. Unlike analog-based systems that rely on reactive maintenance, the LPP™ platform proactively prevents equipment failures, protecting products and profits. It goes beyond basic temperature control and alarms by providing full visibility into system operations. Temperatures, pressures, setpoints, and historical data are displayed on user-friendly, interactive HMI screens, giving a comprehensive view of every component's status for simplified monitoring and smart adjustments to optimize performance. The system's interconnected design enhances communication, boosts performance, conserves energy, and minimizes maintenance needs.

Remote capabilities eliminate the need for on-site technicians, reducing manual intervention and providing greater operational flexibility. With unlimited remote access, technicians can interact with all system data, monitor trends, and easily respond to notifications. This enables quick adjustments, anomaly prevention, and resource savings. The informative HMI design simplifies training for end users and broadens support options. Ongoing support from OES ensures user proficiency, establishing a foundation for long-term partnerships.

The innovative connectivity of Oxford's LPP™ serves as a transformative force that enhances operational efficiency at Helmut's and bridges the geographical gap between the facility in Vernon and OES. Comprehensive digital integration streamlines operations and fosters a new era of connectivity that strengthens collaboration between system owners and their OEMs, setting a precedent for efficiency, sustainability, and adaptability in the ever-evolving landscape of modern business. ❖