

Newsletter

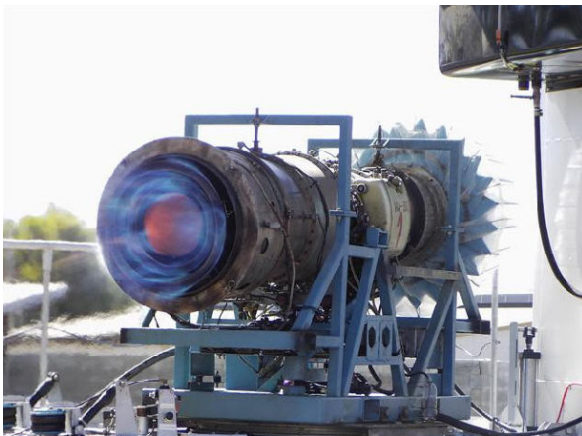
Volume 12, Issue No.2

July 2011

AT A GLANCE...

AUTOMATION NAMED FINALIST AT PACE ZENITH AWARDS—Mining, Minerals & Exploration

The annual PACE Zenith Awards was established eight years back by Process & Control Engineering (PACE) magazine to publicly recognise and reward companies as well as industry professionals who show leadership in engineering and technological excellence and innovation.



Automation IT was nominated for its' work on the automation of the QLD Mines Rescue (QMRS) Gas Inertisation unit. This system is the only one of its type in the world and until Automation IT developed this system the equipment was relying on 40 year old equipment which was literally cut out of a MIG fighter jet and wired together in an aluminum box. The Gorniczny Agregat Gasniczy (GAG) unit is used for extinguishing underground fires in coal mines. Gorniczny Agregat Gasniczy loosely translates to Mine Fire Extinguisher. Due to the success of this project, QMRS has now decided to automate their next unit!

AUTOMATION NEWS

ControlLogix L7 Controllers Offer Improved Performance for Process, Discrete and Motion Applications.

The new ControlLogix® L7 Programmable Automation Controllers (PACs) provide advanced memory, speed and processing capabilities for a wide range of control demands, from high-performance logic and motion to information-intensive process applications. The new controllers also leverage the single design environment and networking protocol of the Rockwell Automation Integrated Architecture™ system.



ControlLogix L7 Controller Enhancements

With memory options ranging 2...32 MB, these controllers provide fast processing in a single integrated solution for all types of applications.

- Optimised for control of high performance motion drives on EtherNet/IP™ or SERCOS™ interfaces, supporting as many as 100 axes
- Faster dual-core custom CPU improves controller scan times
- 1 GB secure digital card (SDRAM) provides improved data integrity and faster reads and writes than CompactFlash technology, and is rated for SIL 2 applications
- Available in fixed memory sizes: 4 MB (1756-L72), 8 MB (1756-L73), 16 MB (1756-L74) and 32 MB (1756-L75)
- Energy Storage Module (ESM) eliminates the need for lithium batteries
- USB port enables faster uploads and downloads, firmware upgrades and online edits
- On-board display provides enhanced controller diagnostics and run-time information

More News...

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THE FUTURE FOR GE PLC COMMS

GE has recently issued a directive that it will be pushing ahead with the implementation of Profinet as it's Ethernet Protocol of choice.

Ethernet solutions are flattening the plant structure and allowing vast amounts of real time data to flow from the device to business applications. This strategy lowers maintenance costs and increases network serviceability. Industrial Ethernet is the ability to provide the real time control over this open infrastructure. The issue has been how to provide the vast functionality over the standard in an easy to implement and maintenance way. PACSystems provides the perfect control platform for adding open standards in a user friendly environment.

PACSystems with PROFINET is focused on 3 major areas:

- Flexible deployment minimizing hardware and configuration
- Improved application uptime with minimal cost
- High performance, low cost simple platform

PACSystems RX3i PROFINET Controller



VersaMax* PROFINET Scanner



PACSystems with PROFINET sets a new standard for integration of open systems, providing the user clear benefits now and easier migration to new technology in the future!

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Automation IT continues its growth and additional sales are on the radar!



As we look to support our consistent steady growth, the need for additional sales resources becomes a reality. To assist with this need, James Ilai has joined the team in June 2011 as an Internal Sales Representative. James brings six years experience as an industrial Electrician as well as business development experience gained in

running an electrical service and support business in New Zealand. James expands upon Automation IT's already multicultural work place and being a keen All Blacks Rugby supporter will be good fun during the forthcoming Rugby World Cup.

UP-COMING EVENTS 2011

Hirschmann Mission Critical Network Design Seminar

Presenters with a combined experience of over 150 years will speak on technical topics ranging from Isolating Network Traffic to Implementing Redundancy and Network Security. Each presenter has the experience and technical background to address current technology trends plus designing state-of-the-art industrial networks for Mission Critical applications for a variety of industries



Other Industry Events:

Surat Mining Exhibition, Toowoomba
22rd-24th June, 2011

QLD Gas Exhibition, Brisbane,
26th-17th August, 2011

Australian Petroleum Show, Toowoomba
23rd-25th August, 2011

QLD Major Projects Conference, Brisbane,
25th October, 2011

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MAJOR PROJECT UPDATES

PA Hospital Translational Research Institute

Work is progressing well on the TRI project. A number of delays have occurred on site due to time lost with the January floods. Although this is through no fault of Automation IT, it has caused some issues with scheduling of installation services. Switchboards have now been completed and preliminary testing is ready to commence. Automation IT's engineers are now busily getting ready for customer witnessed Factory testing.

PLC programming is currently on schedule and all signs are positive for a smooth commissioning period.



On the lighter side...

Engineers are a funny bunch and when a few of them get together, the impossible becomes probable. Take for example a recent camping trip to Moreton Island. Most normal people would simply pack the 4x4 with camping and fishing gear, a few beers and plenty of food.... Not our lot, they need beer on tap, digital video and 5.1 surround sound!



6 Kegs, a temprite (chiller) and Co2... Now that's camping :-)



WH&S Look away now! Beer, thongs & a Chainsaw... I can't watch.

ENGINEERING NEWS

ENGINEERING - OTHER NEWS

Gatton Correctional Centre

Minor works are continuing for the final switchboard although practical completion is expected to be achieved around September 2011.

Underground Coal Mine Vent Fan Upgrade

Work is continuing on a vent fan upgrade for a central QLD mine. Intelligent drives are being used to provide complete monitoring of motor status via high level communications.

Brisbane Supreme Court

The final PLC marshalling panels are due to arrive in July. Engineering is still on schedule and the project is going well

Water Infrastructure

Work continues on the improvement program for the South East QLD water grid project. Alarm rationalisation is progressing and interfacing to the Asset management system is underway.

Grain Terminal Ship Loader

Two ships have now been loaded with the new control system at the QLD grain terminal. Now that the income stream has begun, redundancy is now being implemented in the SCADA system to ensure reliability for the long term.

Transformer Plant

Work has been continuing on minor improvements and support services for ABB's Darra manufacturing facility. Automation IT's support is second to none and this continues to be recognised at ABB.

Gold Coast University Hospital

Work is progressing well however industrial action on site has been a cause of concern for the project as a whole. The latest reports are that everything is returning to normal and work will continue. Documentation is still on schedule and PLC logic is coming along nicely.

Loganholme Sewage Treatment Plant

Further improvement works are being completed at Loganholme. The latest items to be targeted are the Historian system and improvements to the RTU network interfacing with the plant inlet works.

Dragline Works

Several Draglines have been receiving attention to identify and remove any Genius networks from their control systems. This comes as a result of GE's decision to make the Genius technology obsolete. Refer to our last newsletter for further details on the Genius demise. Automation IT was also called upon to rescue another well known contractor after they got out of their depth on a UDD machine shutdown...