

Bianchini SA Shows How to Make Intelligent Field Devices Work

RESULTS

- Returned \$50,000 US / year over investment
- Reduced annual monetary losses through shutdown avoidance:
 - \$15,000 US in steam
 - \$15,000 US in electric energy
- Improved plant operations through lower process variability



APPLICATION

A two-step process using crude oil, methanol, and soybeans as base raw materials produces high grade biodiesel fuel. The plant with a capacity of 324 million liters per year employs intelligent field devices to generate predictive diagnostics, which are used in various ways to enhance overall operations and guarantee high quality.

CUSTOMER

Bianchini SA, a Brazilian company that operates as a processor of soybeans and their derivatives, recently embarked on the production of biodiesel fuel.

CHALLENGE

The designers of Bianchini's new biodiesel fuel plant in Brazil were challenged to achieve a number of strategic objectives:

- Control the costs of commissioning and start up
- Avoid unplanned shutdowns and mitigate in-plant troubleshooting
- Enable remote configuration of measurement devices
- Create a maintenance program to ensure equipment longevity
- Manage of the health of all field devices during plant operation

“Large investments in advanced technology field devices do not guarantee the expected return if the data is not managed properly.”

Abelar Vargas
Production Manager, Bianchini SA

For more information:
www.assetweb.com

SOLUTION

The plant designers found the solution with AMS Suite: Intelligent Device Manager predictive maintenance software, which was installed and put into operation by Emerson's Asset Optimization Services. AMS Device Manager enables the collection of diagnostic information from field devices connected to the DeltaV™ digital automation system. Key diagnostic information is graphically presented on Device Dashboards to enable easy understanding of data. Assets that are not performing well are immediately identified, and technicians can often troubleshoot issues very easily without ever leaving the maintenance shop.

Using predictive diagnostics, managers are able to decide where and when to apply special attention to keep key assets operating and prevent unexpected shutdowns. The result is better day-to-day maintenance – as well as better outage planning. Ultimately, the plant operates more efficiently, ensuring that the designed production capacity of 324 million liters of high quality biofuel is maintained year after year.

According to Abelar Vargas, Production Manager at the Bianchini biodiesel fuel plant, “Large investments in advanced technology field devices do not guarantee the expected return if we do not have good management. AMS Device Manager provides the means to manage the field assets for improved operations. Asset Optimization Services empowered the cost reductions and high level of reliability we were seeking.”



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