

FIELDVUE™ Instruments Change the Best Practices for Control Valve Maintenance in Florida Paper Mill

RESULTS

- Achieved better control resolution and less valve variance
- Required less time for planned shutdowns and outages
- Saved approximately \$250,000 USD annually

APPLICATION

FIELDVUE™ instrumentation on critical control valves

CUSTOMER

Large paper mill in Florida

CHALLENGE

The customer needed a way to efficiently identify problematic critical control valves in their Florida paper mill. Malfunctioning critical control valves can shut down an entire process and result in costly production loss and maintenance expenses. The mill's maintenance personnel attempted to prevent such malfunctions by scheduling repairs of these valves to take place during planned shutdowns and extended outages. Lacking a means to gather data about the health of each valve, however, they found themselves pulling valves off of the line that were not experiencing issues and overlooking valves that required attention.



Fisher® FIELDVUE™ digital valve controllers give easy access to information critical to process operation.



SOLUTION

The customer's maintenance team and John H. Carter engineers began installing Fisher® FIELDVUE digital valve controllers on the mill's critical control valves and project valves, especially those located in remote or hard-to-reach areas of the plant. By implementing the DVC6000 series, the customer was provided with the valve diagnostic capabilities and data recovery methods that were vital in helping them conduct efficient and preventative maintenance.

Initially, the mill's maintenance personnel used field communicators to extract data from the FIELDVUE digital valve controllers, but quickly realized that installing the ValveLink™ software allowed for faster and more convenient data collection and monitoring. The software alerts will notify the technicians that problems exist either in the equipment or the process. Issues, like control valve trim wear, can now be determined and documented by comparing routine, dynamic scans with the initial, baseline scans.

The digital valve controllers and software, coupled with smart transmitters, proved to be the optimal tools the customer required, providing them with a means for checking the health of their control valves without having to pull them off the lines, an issue that was previously draining their valuable resources.

RESULTS

All areas of the paper mill have benefitted from the introduction of these FIELDVUE instruments. The mill's maintenance personnel have reported cost savings of approximately \$250,000 per year with this Fisher solution. They are now able to effectively monitor and track the data on their critical control loops, reduce duration of shutdowns, and have replacement valves and parts ready when a valve shows significant deterioration or other issues.

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 <http://www.Linkedin.com/groups/Fisher-3941826>



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