

IT'S NEVER BEEN DONE BEFORE

Brazil's largest petrochemical facility will operate with Emerson technology

A barren stretch of land 40 miles (65 km) from downtown Rio de Janeiro is being transformed into an energy and petrochemical production center by Petrobras, Brazil's state-run energy company. When completed, the new Comperj (Complexo Petroquimico do Rio de Janeiro) complex will mark the company's return to petrochemical production after two decades and another step forward in Brazil's drive to meet the energy-based needs of its growing economy. Emerson technology is helping make it possible.

It's Never Been Done Before. Comperj is Petrobras' single-largest undertaking ever and, when completed, the multi-billion-dollar project will be the largest petrochemical complex in Brazil. Petrobras is building Comperj to meet the fast-growing energy needs of Brazil's economy, which has made a spectacular recovery from the recent global recession. Brazil is the 10th-largest energy consumer in the world and the third-largest in the Western Hemisphere behind the United States and Canada.

Petrobras has turned to Emerson Process Management to deliver engineering services and technologies for process automation and systems integration at Comperj. Emerson, in its assigned role as Main Automation Contractor for the Comperj project, is not only in charge of engineering and implementing the automation and control systems but will also manage multiple international and local suppliers throughout construction and startup of the facility. This is one of the first industrial projects in Brazil to use the Main Automation Contractor approach.

Helping Petrobras bring the Comperj complex online and on time within a set budget is the mandate given to Emerson Process Management. It's not an unfamiliar challenge for Emerson, which has assisted other leading energy companies on large-scale projects.

Over the next four years, Emerson will draw on its local and global expertise to provide systems at the Comperj complex for process control, safety, fire and gas detection, machinery monitoring, and management of process and maintenance information. Emerson will also supply measurement instruments, control valves, pressure regulators, and other related products.

The Comperj project will be among the first installations of Emerson's new digital automation system that utilizes human-centered design, which enables users to do their jobs more easily and efficiently. Emerson's state-of-the-art process control and automation technologies will also help support environmental and worker safety goals at the facility, which are priorities for Petrobras.

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Emerson teams based in Rio de Janeiro and Sorocaba, São Paulo, where Emerson's Brazil headquarters is located, will lead the project work. In 2009, Emerson announced a US\$35 million expansion of its Sorocaba manufacturing and operations facility, part of the company's commitment to helping build a more prosperous Brazil, strengthening the work force in knowledge and skills. Emerson has more than 1,200 employees in Brazil.

Brazil's economic ramp-up will only accelerate as it prepares for the 2014 FIFA World Cup and the 2016 Olympic Games. With its strong economic growth, the country faces greater domestic demand for gasoline and diesel fuels for transportation. Thanks to Petrobras' vision and investment in Comperj, coupled with Emerson technology, Brazil will continue to make great strides in increasing its energy production to meet growing demand.