

OPERATIONAL CERTAINTY CONSULTING

THE FDC SYSTEM

An FDC system can range from:

- Hand written log books
- Excel spreadsheets
- FDC software

Regardless of the system being used to capture the data there are a few fundamental requirements:

- Data must be accurate.
- Data changes must be auditable.
- Data must be available to multiple groups and departments within a company, and to external partner companies.
- Data must be available to different departments with different urgency.
- Operational issues must be identified and resolved daily, whereas production accounting groups need data on a monthly basis.
- The system must be flexible and expandable when new employees or equipment is deployed to the field.
- The system might be required to share data with other applications.

Based on the fundamental requirements, the options for capturing data can be further analyzed:

- Hand written log books would be difficult to share with multiple groups and the data may not be available in order to resolve operational issues depending on the amount of data being captured.
- Excel spreadsheets would be easily shared between groups but, as with hand written log books, the data may not be available in order to resolve operational issues depending on the amount of data being captured.
- FDC software could be easily shared between groups, and if most of the data is downloaded electronically then the data would be available in order to resolve operational issues.

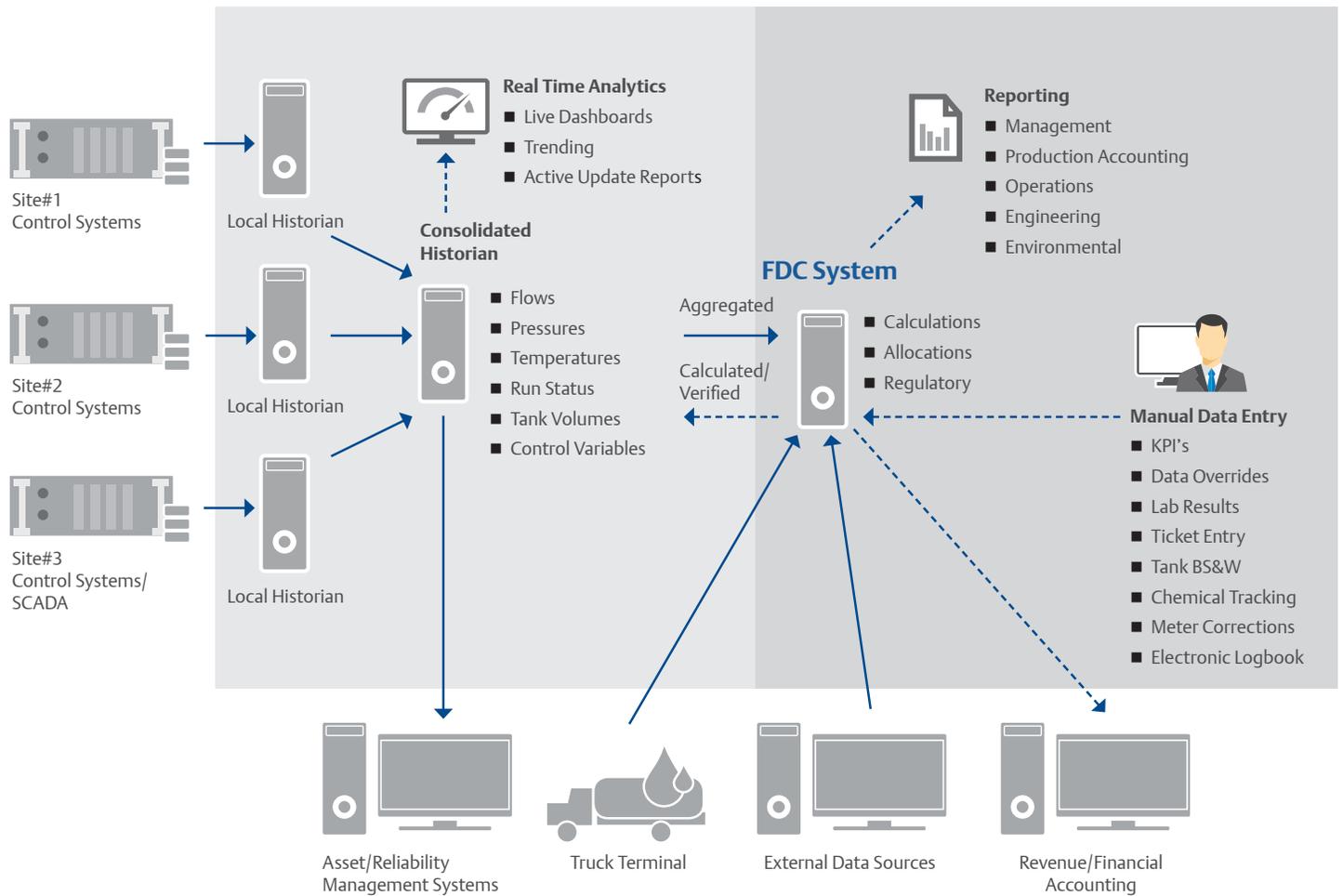
DATA CAPTURE

Current methods of capturing data include:

- Manual entry: written on paper, typed into software
- Electronic capture: downloaded from the field in various formats with one of many interface options
- To be printed for filing
- To be uploaded into FDC software for analysis and verification



EMERSON'S RECOMMENDED DATA FLOW



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COMMON ISSUES

Problems faced by oil and gas companies regarding electronic collection of data include but are not limited to:

- Fragile handheld devices that are cost prohibitive for company wide use
- Software maintenance of systems that must communicate
- Feasible plans to allow for data capture during system downtime or offline
- Company IT bandwidth limitations

BENEFITS OF FDC

The benefits of excel or FDC software is that the application can perform some of the analytics and calculations necessary for the operator or engineer which gives the user more time in the day to determine solutions for increasing profitability rather than spending that time performing the calculations. Also, there is a reduction in duplication of work and effort when all the data and calculation results are available from a single source. The benefits of moving towards cloud based data availability is that it eliminates the oil and gas company from requiring the IT infrastructure and in-house staff which also increases profitability.

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