SIMATIC PCS 7 and Finze & Wagner Optimum Cooperation for Process Automation at Nestlé

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First class product quality, optimum efficiency of resources, maximum availability – the demands placed on a new automation solution for the Nestlé factory in Weiding were high. The Siemens Solution Partner Finze & Wagner implemented a process automation solution that meets these expectations: with the flexible SIMATIC PCS 7 process control system and SIMATIC Batch.

SIMATIC PCS 7 & Specialist Customer Benefits

- Process and cost optimization through simulation
- Fast commissioning
- Maximum production flexibility

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Optimum Cooperation for Process Automation at Nestlé

The Nestlé factory in the southern German city of Weiding produces baby and toddler food for all of Europe. Up to 1000 jars and bottles are filled per minute on four production lines, which must conform with the highest product quality and safety standards. In order to meet these requirements and to ensure optimum efficiency of resources and maximum availability in the future, Nestlé decided to implement a new and modern automation solution. The demands placed on the new process control system were comparably high: in addition to quality assurance and process and cost optimization, Nestlé wanted company-wide networking of all processes and the option of a direct link to the global ERP system. In addition, the guarantee of total batch traceability in accordance with EC guidelines was a must. In light of these general conditions, the Siemens SIMATIC PCS 7 process control system combined with SIMATIC Batch proved to be the natural successor to Nestle's existing SIMATIC S5 systems.

Professional conversion thanks to a strong partner

The time frame for converting the four production lines was very short. An experienced and seasoned partner was therefore a priority in implementing the new automation solution. For over 30 years the certified Siemens Solution Partner Finze & Wagner has provided one-stop engineering for complete automation solutions. Their many years of hands-on experience as a system integrator for Siemens products and solutions also paid off in this case.

The Finze & Wagner engineers initially prepared a shadow system for each production line – including cabling and system installation. By working together with the system operators of Nestlé the production processes of each line were copied exactly and then simulated on SIMATIC PCS 7. This enabled the process optimization potential to be revealed while simultaneously introducing the Nestlé operators to the new system.

Trouble-free commissioning

The commissioning process indicated just how effective the shadow system approach was. Once the on-site cabling was completed by the customer, the Finze & Wagner team was able to convert the first line at the factory in Weiding within one day. Connecting the production line to the new system also proceeded smoothly. The loop check and trial runs were completed within just four days. The downtime for commissioning the other three lines was reduced even further.

Complete control and flexibility

The results achieved through the excellent teamwork of Siemens and Finze & Wagner at Nestlé are convincing: the tight schedule was adhered to and all of the customer's requirements were met. The plant can now be controlled from several stations. Furthermore, Nestlé can offer an even greater variety of products in the future thanks to the integrated Batch system. The graphical recipe editor allows recipes to be adapted directly in the control room – an important step forward on the path to just-in-time-production.

Brief profile of SIMATIC PCS 7 Specialist

Founded in Burghausen, Germany, in C 1972, Finze & Wagner is a global engineering company offering all-in-one solutions in professional engineering and design in the fields of process automation, process control, instrumentation and control, weighing technology, environmental and water engineering, electrical planning, building services, communications and safety engineering, software development, as well as data systems engineering for pharmaceutical companies, environmental technology, and the food, steel, chemical, and petrochemical industries.

Consulting expertise and modern project management are the cornerstones of the company's motto: "Engineering is our passion."

The fiwa group is a member of the certified SIMATIC PCS 7 specialists and a long term Siemens Solution Partner.

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