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Siemens technology controls the beer pipeline in the Paulaner Festival Tent

Every year, about six million liters of beer are poured at the Oktoberfest in Munich. Control technology and software from Siemens are used in three of the main festival tents to pump the tasty festival beer quickly and reliably from the tanks to the taps: via an underground pipeline loop. Reliability and high throughput are especially important, because on busy days up to 70,000 liters of beer are poured per day.

- Since 2010, the Paulaner tent “Winzerer Fähndl” has been supplied by a centralized pipeline system that is controlled by Siemens software. This enables both sales and throughput to be monitored at all times – via web browser, tablet PC or smartphone. In 2011, Bräurosl also adopted the system, followed in 2012 by the Hacker festival tent
- In earlier times, two or three tanks were positioned at five different locations. Today, four large tanks containing 28,000 liters of beer apiece are set up at a central location. Besides saving space, this arrangement also facilitates the delivery and distribution of beer within the tent.
- The heart of the centralized beer distribution system for the Paulaner tent can be found in a control cabinet containing automation technology from Siemens, a programmable logic controller (PLC) of the Simatic S7 300 series.
- Three tanks are connected to five taprooms by way of a pipeline measuring 240 meters in length, which runs around one meter below the ground. The beer flows through the pipeline to the taprooms at a rate of more than 25 centimeters per second. Each of the eleven taps produces up to 20 liters per minute – or one liter every 3 seconds. The beer is tapped at 3 °C and served at around 6 °C.

- In the control cabinet, a so-called “Mass-O-Meter” (a “Mass” is a liter) indicates the exact rate of flow of the beer, like a speedometer. The system sends data on the quantities of beer sold and any error messages to the brewery and the taproom operator.

This background information and press pictures are available at

www.siemens.com/press/oktoberfest

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