Customer Trade-up Case Study

SABIC Europe – Gelsenkirchen

SABIC Europe is a subsidiary of SABIC, the largest petrochemical producer in the Middle East and the number four global producer of polyolefins. SABIC Europe’s Gelsenkirchen plant produces 500,000 tons of polypropylene annually through the operation of one Innovene Gas Phase Plant and two Unipol Gas Phase Plants producing 170,000 tons annually.

To increase production and enhance product quality, SABIC deployed the Rockwell Software Polymer Solution, from Rockwell Automation, on the Innovene line in 2003. Results included:

• Increased first class production by 4.5%,
• Improved product consistency by 35%,
• Decreased reactor variability by 30%, and
• Reduced lab sampling frequency by 50%.

As a result of this success and the benefits of Pavilion8 pilot, SABIC elected to deploy Pavilion8 on the two Unipol PP lines. SABIC had deployed Process Perfecter version 6.5. Rockwell Automation upgraded SABIC to version 7 and then installed Pavilion8. A server was installed by the SABIC site technician and the Rockwell Automation engineer. The installation took half a day.

“What makes Pavilion8® visualization console really valuable is its browser-based and role-based user interface. This provides easy access to the application and makes it very intuitive to use which is appreciated by the operator and leads to higher acceptance. Managers and engineers can easily access the application to see how the plant is running by viewing the key performance indicators.”

Bettina Rathaj, Manager Staff Polypropylene
SABIC Europe

Key Incremental Benefits:
Ease-of-use
Flexibility of the system
• Process control administrator can easily define roles for the operators and engineers and more easily manage what they can change
Intuitive and localized interface in multiple languages (incl. German)
• Faster user adoption
• Increases use of the system by operators, engineers and management
Increasing Lifetime Value
Application Uptime Key Performance Indicator (KPI)
• Ability to track application uptime at-a-glance eliminates need for off-line data digging and analysis and allows control team to spend time driving toward performance goals, not analyzing historic data
Making Value Visible
Historical Trend Plots of Key Variables
• Ability to point-and-click on historical data trends and “replay” to help troubleshoot problems
Anywhere, anytime visibility into the plant performance
• Java-based visualization console makes console platform independent so users can sit in their office and connect to the server to see how the plant is running
Additional Economic Value:
• With strong operator acceptance we expect additional application uptime, this translates into more stabilized process conditions at high throughputs and overall efficiency