

Press Release

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Schneider Electric: more than 30 years' experience in the water business

A major player on the water market for more than 30 years, Schneider Electric is constantly adapting its automatic control and electrical distribution product offering. Throughout the water cycle, these products allow real-time control of the processes' multiple parameters, in accordance with the standards in force, and help to boost the productivity of installations. These installations are managed efficiently because the various people involved, wherever they may be, have access to useful, pertinent information.

Waste water treatment plants, drinking water production plants, pumping stations, collection or distribution stations: at each stage, Schneider Electric contributes its technical and organizational expertise. Schneider Electric is present all over the world, developing international projects based in a large number of countries. It works closely with local partners who are near to the users. This mesh of business relationships, combined with knowledge of the business and the local requirements, ensures that the real needs are identified so that a suitable response to the expectations can be developed.

Solutions customized for the sector

Drawing on its experience, Schneider Electric integrates the constraints linked to both construction and operation of these installations. To simplify the task of the users, whether they are integrators, operators or local authority personnel, Schneider Electric implements parameterizable standard industrial products which it customizes for the water sector. In this way, with the commercialization of W@de, it is proposing remote management solutions. The world leader in variable speed drives, Schneider Electric has developed drives dedicated specifically to controlling the pumps in booster or lift stations.

For installations which are constantly available

In waste water treatment plants and drinking-water production plants, the networks now integrate a wide range of sensors, actuators, measuring instruments, etc. These yield increasing amounts of data that need to be processed, analyzed and exploited to monitor and manage the process at all times. Schneider Electric's multi-function programmable logic controllers are perfectly adapted to this change. As well as providing extended memory capacity and high speed operations, they also handle the data and communications processing tasks, as well as combining the sequential functions with the regulation functions, all with the same processor. The corresponding global

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solutions implement architectures managed by a supervision module; using specialized functions for managing reagent stocks and databases, this supervision module coordinates operation and monitors the installation in real time. The performance levels of the automated system and the process are monitored and analyzed to optimize equipment operation and availability.

Access to information anytime, anywhere, even from a distance

The availability of as much pertinent information as possible means that you can anticipate and react fast. To allow this, the components or sub-assemblies use the Transparent Ready solution developed by Schneider Electric. They are equipped with auto-diagnostic functions and have a sufficient memory capacity to keep a record of maintenance operations or consult documentation online. Their communications facilities provide access to this data via a standard browser. For installation engineers, implementation is simpler and quicker; during the design and test phase, the use of web standards and the availability of tools facilitate integration of Schneider Electric's products. These functionalities ensure that the architectures can be upgraded, while maintaining and constantly improving the technologies over the long term. From a control station, which may be remote, the operators have access to all the data; the maintenance team may receive alerts on it and perform rapid diagnosis to determine whether it is necessary to intervene. Useful information for local authorities and managers, assessing any waste in terms of pollution, can also be extracted from this data.

A targeted services offering

For all the installations involved in the water cycle, Schneider Electric proposes a complete range of equipment and services, assisting its customers in the various phases through to actual implementation.

Its services offering covers design assistance, as well as the definition and implementation of electrical and automatic control equipment. Product-specific operator training facilitate operation and maintenance. For maintenance purposes,, Schneider Electric can also handle spare parts management and provide assistance directly on site.

Schneider Electric has built up specialized teams which are grouped in an organization entirely dedicated to the water sector. The main mission of this organization, based in France, near the major world players in the sector, is to create product, service and solution offerings. It facilitates knowledge sharing worldwide by creating business tools and training programs.