

ADVANCED PROCESS CONTROL

- THE BUSINESS IMPACT

ONE DAY SEMINAR FOR
MANAGEMENT AND SENIOR CONTROL ENGINEERS

BACKGROUND:

Advanced Process Control (APC) comprises of technologies and tactical measures successfully applied in plants to improve product quality and yield, operation flexibility and safety and to reduce energy and utility consumption and emission. This is achieved by more precise, smoother, better timed action on the process and consequently by increased equipment utilization and more careful, reduced use of resources. Extra cost savings come from integrating APC into new designs, e.g. reducing the necessary equipment size. In fact, APC is the most cost and time effective way to increase the plant's profitability where a DCS is already installed and has given the leading users a clear competitive advantage.

The price is modest: Special education of the control engineers is a must. Sometimes outside know-how and technology must be acquired. And for effective use of technology and control systems additional planning of skills, resources, application development and roll-out plus the continuous monitoring of control performance is indispensable. But all investment is typically returned in just a few month.

Most of the needed features are already included in the DCS, an expensive investment which must be used extensively to pay off. But despite the easy access to APC and the need to profit from it, it is not widely used: Controllers in the DCS are often just the same as in the "old" analog panel, many in manual. Main reasons: Lack of knowledge of the benefits, of practical use and of management support.

SEMINAR OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the seminar to improve the exploitation of APC for the benefit of the plant. It provides sound understanding of the potential contributions of APC and concentrates on economical and operational aspects with a minimum of technical details. The most promising areas, indicators for potential operations improvements, estimation of potential credits and key factors for a successful exploitation are discussed. Special indicators are presented to measure and guide these activities and also organizational approaches to leverage resources and expertise plant or corporate wide. Finally, examples of industrial applications and practical demonstrations are given.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Plant management such as Plant Managers, Technical and Operations Managers, CIM Heads, Technology Managers, Project Managers and Senior Process Control Engineers.

PRESENTER:

Hans H. Eder, founder of ACT and former EXXON CIM Advisor, has over 25 years industrial control and management experience and was one of the leading experts in the company which exploits and benefits from APC the most. He has a reputation for locating untapped improvement opportunities and for innovative, high pay-out solutions and has given numerous courses in Europe, America and Asia.

MAIN TOPICS:

- * Process control in light of today's industrial situation*
- * Credits from improved control performance, the impact on operations and operations planning*
- * Areas for additional incentives through APC, benefits from integrating APC in new designs*
- * The main approaches and mechanisms*
- * Assessing the current situation, locating opportunities, converting challenges into opportunities*
- * Removing the roadblocks and barriers for APC*
- * Planning and steering process control to maximum gain, key success factors and pitfalls*
- * Examples of industrial applications and their benefits.*

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DETAILED AGENDA

Overview

Objective of seminar

General motivation for automatic control

Today's industrial situation

- process control vis-a-vis the business needs

Mastering the process dynamics: Operator vs. automatic control

- hierarchical levels of control
- ways to improve operations performance

Credits from improved control performance

- what are the credits?
- what are the mechanisms behind?

Areas for additional incentives

Advanced Process Control - the main approaches

- regulatory control approaches
- Real Time Optimization

Areas for applications

Locating the opportunities

- turning challenges into opportunities
- finding these untapped, hidden opportunities

Incentives, cost and effort, side effects

- selecting the right approach / vendor

Hurdles and roadblocks

APC for new projects

- motivation to include APC in new designs

Planning for the evolution

- developing the basis
- developing a winning APC business plan
- key success factors, the four T's:

Technology - Training - Tools - Tactics

Examples of industrial applications



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