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Transforming Operation: Elevating Compressor Control Systems & Operator Training with AVEVA™ Dynamic Simulation

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Tri-Sen's Story

Innovator in turbomachinery controls

- Established in 1976
- Partnered with Triconex in 1987
- Developed compressor controls in 1993
- Purchased by Triconex in 1993
- Triconex purchased by Invensys in 1995
- Tri-Sen taken private in 2008
- Added dynamic simulation services in 2010
- Entered into alliance with Elliott in 2012
- Became a certified Triconex integrator in 2018





Business Challenge

Upgrade of compressor and turbine controls for an ethylene plant

- Provide new compressor and turbine controls
- Find obstacles in the current plant design that could prevent success
- Design and test improvements
- Deliver on time
- Train operators





AVEVA Product Portfolio use case / application

- Modelled with AVEVA Dynamic Simulation
 - Model tested against historian data
 - Failure testing
 - Tested modifications on model
- Triconex controls added for machinery
- AVEVA for Triconex integrates Triconex controls
- Virtual FAT using Dynamic Simulation and Trisim
- Simulation integrated with DCS
 - Tested DCS changes and screen designs
 - Trained operator
 - Performed additions control testing



AVEVA





Model Flow Sheet





AVEVA

AVEVA product capabilities

Solutions for our business challenges

- Rigorous, first principles simulation
- Integrated model with the Triconex controls emulator
- Closed-loop software FAT
- Dynsim historian and trending tools used for engineering
- Integration with DCS (via OPC)



Conclusions

- Engineering of the system was more thorough the simulation eliminates a lot of the guessing
- Project schedule benefitted from out-of-sequence tasks
- Trained operators were more confident during the first startup
- Startups of all compressor are quicker and more reliable and require less operator involvement
- Quicker starts reduce the amount of flaring
- During plant upsets, the operators no longer need to "baby sit" the compressors



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How virtual testing environments can promote safe and successful controls upgrades

Goal & Challenges

- Goal: Ensure smooth controls upgrade for compressors and turbines
- Challenges: Identify obstacles in current plant design; Prevent delays that could extend downtime; Safely train operators to startup and operate the new control system.

Solution

 Create a high-fidelity virtual testing environment capable of rigorously reproducing the plant process behavior (AVEVA Dynamic Simulator) and the new control logics (Triconex emulator) to perform a virtual FAT, test failures, control changes and train operators

Results

- Systematic engineering of the system guesses eliminated by the simulation
- Project schedule benefitted from out-of-sequence tasks
- Trained operators were more confident during the first startup
- Startups of all compressors are quicker and more reliable
- Quicker starts reduce the amount of flaring
- During plant disruptions, the operators no longer need to "babysit" the compressors



"You guys are wizards"

Customer Lead Process Engineer



Questions?

Please wait for the microphone. State your name and company.



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Process I South Texas

Customer can start their ethylene plant 30% faster. During upsets, compressors take care of themselves

Challenge

- Eliminate check valve failures
- Eliminate surging during startups and trips
- Reduce startup time for compressors
- Reduce flaring

Solution

• Aveva Dynamic Simulation and Aveva for Triconex were used to model and test the process improvements and controls

Results

- Faster, more reliable starts reduced flaring
- No more compressor surging
- Operators no longer need to attend to compressors during upsets
- Operators were fully trained on simulator before startup
- Operators were sold on the improvements

