



Double success in Romania

Autotech Controls has won two prestigious orders in Romania.

The company is to supply the control and electrical solution for a new paint shop for Ford Motor Company. Its track record in delivering large installation projects overseas was instrumental in securing the contract from Dürr, supplier of automotive production facilities.

Andrew Robinson, MD for Autotech, says "Dürr selected us to provide the electrical installation services for all the material handling equipment being installed in the paint shop at Ford's Craiova plant. The system includes 3.5km of handling equipment, which will need to be brought on stream within a very challenging timeframe."

An automated handling

system at Coca-Cola Hellenic's bottling and distribution facility in Ploiesti has gone live following rapid installation and commissioning. Autotech was commissioned by Logistex to provide the conveyor and crane control systems and worked closely with Logistex to ensure tight deadlines were met with minimal downtime.

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Providing support for treatment works

Few people driving past United Utilities' Wybersley Water treatment Works in Cheshire will even hazard a guess as to the role this state-of-the-art process plays in producing safe drinking water for homes and businesses across the Stockport area.

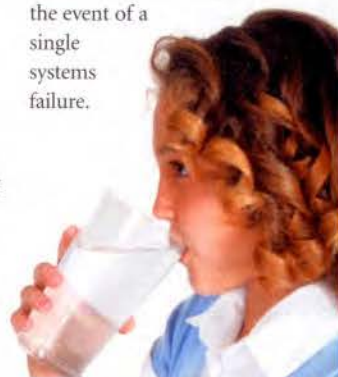
In addition to providing 24/7 service and support, Denca has carried out a number of projects at the site.

These have included continuous monitoring capability for cryptosporidium contamination, integration of Lamella plant, and SCADA upgrade. Denca has also upgraded systems.

United Utilities, concerned that a single PLC failure would cause total shutdown, asked Denca to undertake a survey with the remit to propose

how reliability concerns could be eliminated or improved.

Denca's expertise enabled the combination of the WTW's PLC1 and PLC2 into a pair of hot standby units in order to create a 'dual redundancy system', ensuring that drinking water supply could not be compromised in the event of a single systems failure.



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Efficiency boost

Witon Engineering is a CNC precision turning sub-contractor that has an impressive investment in multi-spindle lathes. It offers short lead times and provides an economic service for large and small batch quantities requiring close tolerances. Rapid growth in the past four years has been helped by the installation of PSL DataTrack software.

Fast implementation of the system made an immediate impact. Witon could communicate more easily throughout the factory

and offices, saving money by streamlining operations. Keeping track of stock and materials is now easier.

Everyone involved feels comfortable with the software's intuitive interface and confident in its abilities. A scheduling module and barcoded shop floor data collection were quickly added. Production scheduling is now possible in a fraction of the time it used to take, and the operation is less wasteful more accurate and efficient.

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Conditioner for shampoo manufacturer

Flexicon (Europe) has solved a material transfer problem for Fillcare, a subsidiary of French producer Fareva which has a production plant in Mid Glamorgan and specialises in shampoo and skincare products.

Recently it invested in a pneumatic, vacuum, bulk materials transfer system to move raw materials from bulk bags to manufacturing vessel. A fatty alcohol in the form of wax flakes caused a flow and compacting problem.



This was resolved by Flexicon which recently designed and commissioned a dedicated bulk bag conditioner to sit upstream of the bulk transfer system. The

conditioner's two hydraulic rams with specially-contoured end plates press opposing sides of bulk bags to loosen material that has solidified during storage and shipment, enabling bulk bag unloaders to discharge material through bag spouts.

An optional, hydraulically-actuated, variable-height turntable allows in-frame bag rotation and conditioning of bulk bags at varying heights.

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Widening of sole supplier status

ABB has won a new five year framework agreement with Thames Water and broadened the scope of its sole supply arrangement to include an extended range of major instrument categories.

Traditionally ABB has been a flow partner to Thames Water,

providing flow equipment alongside a group of favoured suppliers. Under the new agreement, it has extended its sole supplier status to encompass mains and battery powered electromagnetic flowmeters, insertion electromagnetic flowmeters, absolute and differential pressure transmitters and coriolis mass flowmeters.

The agreement follows a



review of performance, whole-life maintenance costs and software upgrades.

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