

CASE STUDY

DCS & LEPIU Upgrade

OUR CLIENT:	Methanex – Waitara Valley
INDUSTRY:	Chemical
VALUE:	NZ\$2.5M
OVERVIEW:	<p>The Methanex Waitara Valley site was restarted in 2013 after a shutdown period of 5 years.</p> <p>The site Honeywell TDC 2000/3000 system was due to become obsolete and the existing Experion PKS DCS required upgrading.</p> <p>One of the key projects was to replace the Honeywell system with C300 controllers and upgrade the Experion PKS DCS to the latest version.</p> <p>In addition to this the LEPIU system, which used a multiplexer to provide temperature data, could not be used with the new network and required replacing.</p> <p>Also as part of the restart project the rotating machinery control systems were upgraded and interfaced with the Experion PKS DCS.</p>
ENGINEERING:	<p>ECL Control System Engineers were responsible for the design, procurement, documentation, installation, testing and commissioning of the upgraded systems.</p> <p>A wireless solution for the temperature data, Yokogawa transmitters interfacing with the Honeywell DCS, was engineered, utilizing the existing thermocouple cables. Critical temperatures were to be hardwired back to the DCS.</p> <p>The successful completion of the commissioning for the DCS systems was on the critical path of the site project schedule to begin running up and restarting the site. Without the DCS the operations staff in the control room would have no remote control or visibility of the plant.</p>

OUTCOME:

- The commissioning of the DCS and LEPIU was successfully completed, allowing the plant to be run up ready for restart.
- The project was completed on time, within budget with no lost time incidents.



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