

CASE STUDY

Turbo Machinery Controls Upgrade

OUR CLIENT: Methanex – Waitara Valley Restart

INDUSTRY: Chemical

VALUE: NZ\$250K

OVERVIEW: The Methanex Waitara Valley site was restarted in 2013 after a shutdown period of 5 years. One of the key projects was the upgrade of the control and monitoring systems for the site compressor and circulator.

In addition to a full mechanical refit, including new Woodward Governors, the existing control and vibration monitoring systems were obsolete and required upgrading.

The control systems were replaced by Triconex Safety PLCs and the vibration monitoring systems were upgraded to the latest Bently Nevada systems.

Communications were upgraded to Modbus TCP/IP and communicated with the site's Honeywell Experion DCS.

ENGINEERING: ECL Engineers project managed the upgrade and were involved from the design of the controls systems, procurement, HAZOP and development of the project documentation through to testing and commissioning of the compressor and circulator.

The commissioning had to be completed on a tight timeline, the compressor and circulator were on the critical path of the site project schedule to begin running up the site in preparation for the restart.

OUTCOME:

Commissioning was successfully completed, allowing the rest of the site to begin running in preparation for the restart.

The project was completed on time, within budget and with no lost time incidents



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