

Yokogawa Instruments for New Zealand Dairies

When New Zealand Dairies (NZDL) selected International Process Systems (IPS) , an engineering and execution company, to design and construct a new dairy facility in Studholme, South Canterbury, Yokogawa New Zealand was the first choice when it came to process control instrumentation.

The NZDL project required a full turnkey operation. The role of IPS was to select and assemble a building team, formulate a process design, select suppliers and design services, and finally, to construct the new facility - all in less than 11 months. It was also essential that IPS selected a supplier base that could supply for the project and support it in the future.

“Part of the NZDL project required a complete solution for integrating the electrical, automation and instrumentation system,” said Robert Gifford, IPS Managing Director. “Yokogawa New Zealand (Yokogawa) was chosen, based on their proven track record of reliability and after sales support.”

IPS also considered the commonality of equipment throughout the plant as essential, because the project covered full site services, processing and warehousing.

“Of course price was a major factor,” added Mr Gifford. “But more importantly, Yokogawa could offer NZDL local technical support and they worked to fit in with our other suppliers.”

Including a full range of instrumentation for all site services and processing instrumentation covering temperature, pressure, flow and mass flow instruments, the NZDL project consisted of 16 x ICS40G inductivity probes, 16 x ISC450G inductive conductivity transmitters, 1 x SC4A conductivity probe, 1 x SC450G conductivity transmitter, 9 x ROTAMASS (remote type), 17 x AXF magnetic flowmeters (integral type), 75 x EJA pressure transmitters and other third party items.

“We are one of the major suppliers of process control instruments to the New Zealand dairy industry,” said Steve Poole, Yokogawa's Christchurch Regional Manager. “The NZDL project was one of the largest orders for PCI product since Yokogawa began operations in New Zealand in 2000 and provides an even greater installed base on the South Island.”

Timing and delivery of the plant was always crucial. With the aid of Yokogawa equipment and technical advice, IPS has now almost completed the plant.

With construction nearly complete, I/O checking and commissioning is well underway, and IPS is thoroughly impressed by the performance and reliability of Yokogawa's equipment and service.

“The installation of Yokogawa's equipment ran very smoothly,” added IPS' Robert Gifford. “From a company like Yokogawa, you shouldn't expect anything less. They performed as one would expect from a multinational at the top of their field”

According to Robert Gifford, maintaining a long-term relationship with any supplier is critical in a successful operation as well as ensuring that the plant is supported with spares and technical advice.

“Single site companies face a huge risk should customer breakdowns occur,” he said. “The support from Yokogawa in being able to respond and assist when breakdowns occur is instrumental in maintaining profits and ensuring continual plant operation.”

Yokogawa’s Steve Poole said that his company’s international profile is a good fit with IPS’ workload and location of projects.

“Our relationship can only improve as IPS looks to utilise other aspects of Yokogawa operations into their projects,” he added. “YNZ is looking forward to continuing the relationship with IPS and providing full support to the NZDL plant.”

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