

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: August 9, 2006

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Release #: 824

Yokogawa Announces Functional Enhancements to STARDOM Network-based Control System

Tokyo, Japan – Yokogawa Electric Corporation announces the release of an upgraded version of its STARDOM network-based control system that provides a number of functional enhancements.

The newly added enhancements improve STARDOM's competitiveness in the oil, natural gas, petrochemical, and other booming energy and raw material markets. Key features of the enhancements are an improved communication function for controlling widely-distributed production facilities and the capability to enhance control system reliability by using STARDOM in combination with other control devices in a large plant.

* STARDOM is an open network-based control system comprised of function-specific control, operation, and monitoring components that can be interconnected flexibly and on a scaleable basis using networking technology. The system features the same high reliability and supportability of a DCS while having the openness, versatility, and cost-effectiveness of systems that combine PCs and programmable logic controllers (PLCs).

Development Background

As crude oil prices and energy demand continue to rise, investment remains active in oil and natural gas extraction, pipeline, and other upstream process facilities. Since these facilities are spread out over a wide area, users demand highly reliable control systems that are compatible with a number of communication protocols.

As STARDOM is highly effective in controlling shared-use plant facilities, there is an increasing need to integrate it with Yokogawa's flagship CENTUM series integrated production control system, which is designed for main process control. When CENTUM is used in combination with STARDOM, the overall efficiency of oil refinery and petrochemical plants is significantly increased.

STARDOM's recent functional enhancements address these users' requirements.

Features

1. Improved Communication Function for Wide-area Distributed Control

The DNP3 communication protocol is being increasingly employed in control systems for oil and natural gas extraction, pipelines, and other facilities that are dispersed over wide areas. In the previous revision, serial interfaces such as RS-232C were prepared for DNP3. With this upgrade, Ethernet interface is provided.

* DNP3 refers to Distributed Network Protocol 3, a communication protocol that was originally developed for the electric utility industry in Europe. This protocol has recently been introduced in the wide-area distributed control of oil and gas drilling sites, pipelines, and water supply and sewerage systems.

2. Enhanced Reliability for Integrated Control

When STARDOM is combined with other control devices to form a large-scale integrated control system, dual redundancy in the control network can be achieved. For instance, the integrated use of the CENTUM series control system for oil refinery facilities and STARDOM for shared-use facilities such as product storage tanks results in a more reliable control system.

Major Target Markets

1. Development of oilfields, gas fields, and other widely distributed facilities including water supply and sewerage systems
2. Small to medium-scale process plants, including oil, chemical, iron and steel, and pulp and paper plants

Applications

The overall operation, monitoring, and control of facilities

- Remote control of production facilities

About Yokogawa

Yokogawa's global network of 18 manufacturing facilities, 81 companies, and over 650 sales and engineering offices spans 30 countries. Since its founding in 1915, the US\$4 billion company has been engaged in cutting-edge research and innovation, securing more than 7,000 patents and registrations, including the world's first digital sensors for flow and pressure measurement. Industrial automation and control, test and measurement,

information systems and industry support are the core businesses of Yokogawa. For more information about Yokogawa, please visit our web site at www.yokogawa.com.

About Yokogawa Corporation of America

Yokogawa Corporation of America is the North American unit of \$4 billion Yokogawa Electric Corporation, a global leader in the manufacture and supply of instrumentation, process control, and automation solutions. Headquartered in Newnan, Georgia, Yokogawa Corporation of America serves a diverse customer base with market-leading products including analyzers, flowmeters, transmitters, controllers, recorders, data acquisition products, meters, instruments, distributed control systems, and more.

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