

## PRESS RELEASE

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## **Yokogawa Announces World's First CAMS Alarm Management Solution**

Yokogawa Electric Corporation announces the launch of Consolidated Alarm Management Software for Human Interface Station (CAMS for HIS), the world's first alarm management solution to utilize the Consolidated Alarm Management System (CAMS) concept. Yokogawa has been developing a new approach to alarm management in line with its VigilantPlant vision for creating a practical and sustainable environment where operators can see clearly, know in advance, and act with agility. The CAMS concept embodies this new approach and helps customers avoid potential safety and environmental incidents caused by alarm overload. It also enables customers to improve operational efficiency under normal conditions, freeing the operators of tedious repetitive tasks and allowing them to focus on true process concerns.

### **Why CAMS Is Needed**

A widespread issue in manufacturing plants is alarm overload. As formerly independent systems are integrated for more effective operation by fewer operators, each operator has to monitor an increasingly wider area and consequently deal with more alarms. Without rigorous alarm rationalization efforts, alarm flooding becomes a serious problem and increases the risk of safety and environmental incidents.

There are a number of fundamental guidelines such as the EEMUA No.191\* that help customers reduce alarms, but practical tools that can be implemented are still in short supply. Yokogawa proposes a new approach to alarm management based on the new CAMS concept that combines practical bottom-up solutions with fundamental top-down improvements, helping customers achieve the goal of safe and agile plant operations.

## **What CAMS Enables**

CAMS is practical and has an immediate effect. It accepts the fact that the sources of alarms are proliferating while customer engineering time and resources are limited. Rather than solely relying on rigorous top-down alarm design and redesign, Yokogawa enables a practical, overarching real-time alarm management system that delivers the right information to the right people at the right time.

CAMS for HIS, the latest product to be released by Yokogawa, embodies the CAMS concept. In real time, it integrates the acquisition of all alarm and event (A&E) data, including that from subsystems; normalizes and re-classifies this to eliminate incompatibility; allows customers to add useful alarm attributes such as user names, alarm purposes, and allowable time before action; groups the consolidated A&E data and removes redundant alarms; suppresses nuisance alarms; and enables the operator to focus on important alarms through filtering, sorting, eclipsing, shelving, and load shedding. Through these innovative functions, CAMS for HIS arms customers with an unprecedented capability to implement a real-time consolidated alarm management system with bottom-up flexibility. This is a new solution to an old problem that brings to mind the story of the Egg of Columbus.

This new product also helps customers implement the top-down approach to alarm design by defining good alarms with attributes such as purpose, consequence, and priority.

## **Who Will Benefit from CAMS?**

Yokogawa urges customers facing alarm flooding situations in their plants to introduce CAMS for HIS. It also benefits those who are looking for alarm management capabilities that go beyond the current generation DCS alarm systems. Customers planning to consolidate their control rooms and design their alarm system to be in compliance with the EEMUA No.191 guidelines will benefit from this product's practical and immediate solutions.

## **Yokogawa's Service Offerings for Alarm Design and Improvement**

The practical bottom-up approach is complementary to the fundamental top-down improvement initiative of alarm rationalization. Alarms designed right that do not define or generate nuisance alarms go a long way to preventing alarm flooding. In addition to the new CAMS for HIS solution, Yokogawa also delivers field-proven tools and consulting services that help our customers assess the effectiveness of their current alarm systems, identify the root cause of problems, and take appropriate actions to rationalize alarms. Yokogawa helps customers combine practical bottom-up solutions with fundamental top-down improvements to build and sustain effective alarm systems for safe and agile plant operations.

\*EEMUA stands for the Engineering Equipment and Materials Users Association, which consists of both major suppliers and users of process automation in the oil, gas, chemical, and power industries. EEMUA No.191 is a guideline for the design, management, and procurement of optimum alarm systems.

For more about CAMS: <http://www.yokogawa.com/iab/vigilantplant/iab-CAMS-en.htm>

## **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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