

HONEYWELL XLS3000 PROVIDES FIRE SAFETY AND PEACE OF MIND TO ARGENTINA'S LARGEST CONVERSION REFINERY

Case Study

For YPF S.A. Luján de Cuyo refinery the migration of the fire detection, suppression and mass notification control system was critical for employees' life safety, and the Honeywell XLS3000 was an ideal solution to meet this challenge.

BACKGROUND

The largest oil company in Argentina, YPF S.A. is a fully integrated oil and gas company from upstream to downstream, including gas and power segments. It engages in the exploration, development and production of crude oil, natural gas, and LPG, as well as the refining, marketing, transportation and distribution of oil and petroleum products and derivatives, petrochemicals, LPG and biofuels.

At the start of 2020, YPF's held interests in 127 oil and gas fields and had proved reserves of approximately 673 million barrels of oil and 2,241 billion cubic feet of gas. The company participates in 16 power generation plants with an aggregate installed capacity of 2,614MW. The Argentine Republic owns 51% of the shares in YPF.

The company's three Argentine refineries have an annual capacity of about 116

million barrels. It also has a joint venture refinery (Refinor) with Petrobras Energía.

Constructed in 1940, the Luján de Cuyo refinery is a major driver of the Mendoza province's economy. The 110,000-bpd facility is Argentina's largest conversion refinery, supplying refined products to 14 national provinces.

CHALLENGES

After 20 years of operation, the eight Honeywell XLS 1000 fire alarm control panels at the YPF Luján de Cuyo refinery have become obsolete. As the product had been discontinued, there were problems with the provision of spare parts. Nevertheless, the system was at 100% operational capacity, working without failures and flaws, thanks to the efforts of Honeywell experts performing preventive maintenance and keeping the panels active.

HONEYWELL SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Part of the XLS series, the Honeywell XLS3000 is an intelligent FACP designed for medium- to large-scale facilities. It is ideal for virtually any application because it features a modular design that can be configured per project requirements. With one to ten Signaling Line Circuits (SLCs), the XLS3000 supports up to 3,180 intelligent addressable devices.

Honeywell offers hands-on learning opportunities to equip field engineers and end-users with the tools needed to program, commission and implement the XLS Platform confidently.

SOLUTION

The project included the replacement of the Honeywell XLS 1000 Fire Alarm Control Panels (FACP) with Honeywell XLS 3000 intelligent FACPs. All associated field devices were also replaced.

As the equipment being replaced was a Honeywell solution, its reliability was proven within 20 years of operation without any significant failure. The choice was also influenced by the presence of Honeywell's specialists on the refinery's premises, providing permanent support and assistance to the YPF staff.

When combined with a Honeywell Enterprise Buildings Integrator (EBI), the XLS3000 becomes part of an owner-operated proprietary monitoring system, allowing the connection of standalone or networked panels. The migration included the update of the EBI platform, the configuration and programming of the new panels and modules, and the training of the refinery's staff.

The main challenge of the project was to carry out the migration with the process units in service. Another obstacle was the development of the Coronavirus pandemic that overlapped with the final stage of the implementation, which pushed YPF and Honeywell to find creative solutions. For example, the training process for the YPF staff has been carried out online.

The benefits for the Luján de Cuyo refinery include:

- Greater reliability of the installation.
- Optimization of times during the spare parts purchasing processes.

Honeywell continues to support the customer, providing permanent assistance and performance monitoring after project completion.

Finalized on time and within the allocated budget, the project was a success, leaving the customer satisfied that the deliverables meet their needs while the full scope of the work was completed according to their specification.

SUMMARY

Fire emergency detection and evacuation are extremely critical to life safety, and the XLS3000 is ideally suited for these applications.

The Honeywell solutions provide tranquility and peace of mind to the Luján de Cuyo refinery operators. Knowing that they have a highly reliable product installed and the Honeywell specialists that can assist them whenever they need, the operators can focus on value-added operations, increasing overall productivity and efficiency.

For more information

To learn more about Honeywell's products visit www.honeywellprocess.com or contact your Honeywell account manager.

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