Newfield Automation Ltd – Rockwell Legacy PLC Migration.

Newfield Automation Limited has a proven track record in migrating Rockwell legacy PLC systems and has developed various migration strategies which allows the customer to take advantage of the latest products available. These strategies have been developed to minimize the amount of downtime and disruption during the migration process, thereby reducing loss of production.

Our skills not only lie with PLC's, but also include the upgrade/migration of Rockwell HMI's and SCADA. We also utilise the best Rockwell products available for the application(s), within the customers' budget. The migration can also be phased to assist with capital expenditure and plant access limitations

The Problem
- Your PLC system is currently in use.
- You are aware that spares are becoming difficult and expensive to obtain.
- Support can become costly if you have to call an engineer out to site.
- Risk of your system failing and the impact in lost production.

Requirements
- Replace obsolete PLC Hardware
- Improve system reliability.
- Improve system performance.

The Solution
- Convert the existing PLC software to the latest version.
- Use a pre-planned migration plan to implement the new Hardware with minimum downtime.
- Replace the existing hardware with new technology.

PLC-5

CompactLogix

SLC

ControlLogix

Rockwell Automation
Recognized Systems Integrator

Implementation

Newfield Automations approach uses a formal structured methodology which has been applied to many successful migrations for satisfied clients in applications ranging from Chemical Processing to Food Manufacturing.

Our steps are as follows: -

● Identify the existing equipment and future operational and functional requirements.

● Review the process of your existing system and take back ups of PLC and SCADA or HMI equipment as well as details of your existing wiring schematics.

● Formulate and establish a recommended migration path and advise on the best course of implementation based on your operational requirements. (Some of the parameters to consider are shutdown periods, operational support, business risks/needs and deliverables). Once agreed, a detailed Method Statement and Risk assessment will be produced which will form the basis for the intended changeover methodology.

● Conversion of the existing PLC software to the latest version.

● We work closely with the customer to provide a level of documentation that will allow the replacement system to be maintainable. This will include both hardware and software documentation. We can also provide GA's, material lists, wiring schematics, cable schedules, etc as well as user requirement specifications, functional design specifications and software design specifications.

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● After the software has been migrated to the new platform(s), we will provide the means of validating the new software. Upon satisfactory validation, the completed system is released for installation.

The physical changeover phase is normally viewed as the most critical. However by carrying out detailed offline validation prior to changeover and by the use of a number of pre-planned swap over methodologies such as direct I/O connection leads, hot swap terminations and bus coupled I/O. The risks are engineered down to an acceptable level.

● Finally after completion of the installation phase the commissioning of the system will take place to an agreed testing schedule. Support documentation will then be supplied, enabling you to maintain the system in the future.

Benefits

● Improved system diagnostics.
● Less downtime due to more reliable hardware.
● Spares readily available.
● Future expansion and modifications made easy.
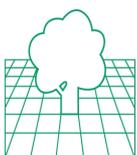● Easily integrated into Siemens products
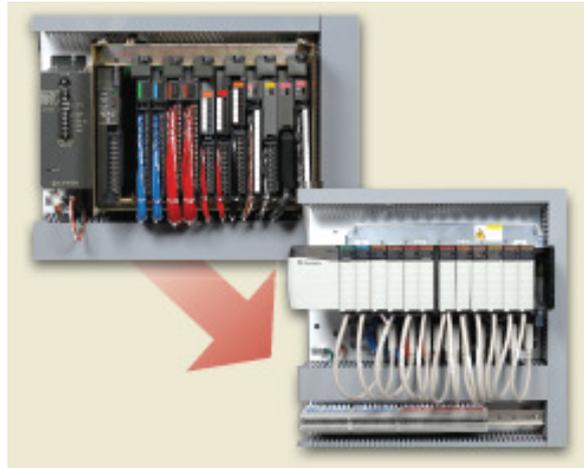
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