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Ireland's journal of instrumentation, control, and automation









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Increased Automation improves Water & Wastewater Industry business processes

RC believes that the water & wastewater industry represents one of the greatest opportunities for the automation business through the next 20 years. Throughout much of the developed world, including North America, Western Europe, and Japan, the existing water & wastewater infrastructure is aging rapidly and often suffering from neglect.

According to their recent report "Automation Expenditures for Water & Wastewater Industry Global Market Research Study", automation expenditures in the water & wastewater industry will grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.8% over the next five years. According to Allen Avery, Senior Analyst and co-author of this study, "Both developed and developing regions are seeing improving economies and thus are looking to either upgrade or install new water and wastewater treatment and distribution systems."



In addition to market analysis and forecasts, the study covers the current market nuances, strategic issues, and the future outlook. The report also highlights the factors that influence the global water & wastewater market and its dynamics.

Water is not only essential for producing fossil fuels and for generating electricity from both conventional and non-conventional energy sources; water withdrawal, treatment, and distribution are all highly energyintensive activities.

to page 4

Thár barr i mBaar

Emerson reveals smart connections

Read-out travelled from the scenic, and also sunny, fastnesses of Conamara, on the west coast of Ireland, into the great alpine fastnesses of that beacon of freedom and democracy in the heart of Europe, the Cantons of Helvetia. The destination was the scenic town of Zug, close to the new state-of-the-art headquarters of Emerson Process Management at the nearby settlement of Baar.



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Qualified to work in automation?

Declan Lordan of Douglas Control & Automation recently visited the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT)

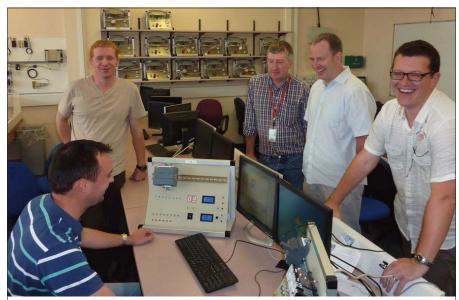
he story of the Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) is repeated in many third level colleges around the country. They have invested heavily in upgrading their Automation Equipment to support the opportunities offered in Automation & Control Industries. The picture (Pic 1) shows the new Siemens S7. The S7 1200 and the Siemens Logo are both used in various training modules on automation by the college in many of their engineer courses.

That there is a major shortage of Skill automation engineers and technicians is recognised throughout the world. These concerns have been express by major multinational manufacturers, vendor's of automation products and Integrators as they struggle to find the skilled automation engineers they need to keep the highly automation systems going. (see also our item on page 1)

There is also a recognition by many companies that the first generation of Automation professionals are now reaching retiring age and the shortage of trained automation people to replace them as well as the loss of there expertise is a growing concern The competitiveness of industry around the world is dependent on the increased level of automation and on reliable support of this 24hr a day 365 days a year.

Ireland has a reputation of well educated and trained graduates. Over the last 10 and more years we have invested in upgrading the equipment and laboratories used by these engineers. The quality of our engineers and technicians is recognised around the world with companies now travelling to Ireland to interview these graduates and offer them positions across Europe and further afield. Engineers in responsible positions in many automation, pharma-ceutical engineering and companies are in many cases trained at CIT and other Irish establishments.

The picture (Pic 2) shows one project developed and built by a 3rd year student to monitor and control the dynamics of energy



Pic 1: from left: Oliver Hearn, (Seated) Technical Officer, Gerard Geaney, Lecturer Liam Carroll, Senior Technical Officer, Michael Murray, Lecturer, Noel Mulcahy, Lecturer all in Dept. Electrical & Electronic Engineering, CIT

generation using a Siemens S7 1200 and Siemens energy monitoring meters.

When I asked about computer simulation for projects, the response were not surprising but still reassuring to hear. The lecturers felt that the experience a student gets from the hands on practical applications gives them a much greater understanding of the technologies involved, and how everything works especially when finding faults that may have occurred or inserted by a lecturer during a class. While

mistakes are made by most students it is much better to makes these while at college while learning in a safe environment and they will then be much better prepared for Industry.

Many other uses are made of this automation equipment with course modules being given on other engineering disciplines. The modules are also used in retraining of electricians and other trades to make them more attractive to potential employers at home and abroad.



Emerson report from page 1



The press conference itself was continents Emerson's efforts in support service initiative, with a number of Emerson customers describing their experiences. It was also an opportunity to see their new headquarters up close and personal and the conference and presentations were given there.

We were made familiar with Emerson's progress in facing the challenges in modern process management. These discussed under four headings, performance demands, expertise shortage, operational complexity and geography. These are confronting industry in all

a focus on Emerson's global helping to fill these requirements was outlined in some detail.

> Our full report on-line may be found on wp.me/t7Kv

Roadshow at Croke Park

Over 150 leaders from some of the country's biggest names in industry turned out in force to learn more about maximising uptime in virtualised environments, at a series of events organised by industrial IT solutions provider, SolutionsPT. In Ireland the event visited both Dublin (Croke Park) and Rochestown Park in Cork.

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Beware imitations!

Like the famous Irish stout, there are many imitations but only one that's internationally recognised.

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Water & wastewater from Page 1

On the energy supply side, water is critical for developing the increasingly important, nonconventional oil and resources (such as shale gas and oil sands), for growing biomass for biofuels, and for cooling electric power generating plants. On the energy consumption side,

transporting and treating water are both highly energy-intensive activities, requiring a significant amount of water to operate pumps, motors, and filtration systems.

Strategic planning for water & infrastructure wastewater investments and transitioning the

operation and management of existing assets to incorporate new advances in technology is critical. Challenges and issues the water & wastewater industry must address include:

*Aging infrastructure increased demand for water

- * Inadequate and/or ineffective wastewater infrastructure in many parts of the world
- Funding for large projects during periods of economic uncertainty
- * Privatisation and public/ private partnerships (PPP) require efficient transition of legacy systems to meet new demands from stakeholders
- *Increasing concern over security issues
- * Increasing demands upon the aging, shrinking, internal workforce

Automation suppliers can play a major role in providing solutions to overcome these challenges.





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Company News from page 3

demand for virtualised SolutionsPT environments. hosted the 'Availability Virtualised in Automation' roadshow to address advantages of virtualisation and how to deal with the challenges these technologies present. Representatives from several household names were among those present to hear how they could still ensure the optimum level of uptime, whilst enjoying the benefits of a virtualised architecture.

The panel of experts gave an overview of the growing trend towards virtualised models, how the industrial IT world had a specific set of needs different from its thin client architecture, and the challenges of running these technologies on the shop floor.

This was followed by a practical demonstration of the Stratus technology currently ensuring that some of the world's biggest companies enjoy 24/7 uptime.

Rob Dinsmore, Product Manager for the hardware of SolutionsPT, division "Manufacturing commented; and utility companies are becoming ever more reliant on the availability of their IT systems and replacing physical infrastructure with virtual machines. We wanted to illustrate how manufactur-ers ensure application availability virtualised on platforms in today's world.

www.industrialit.co.uk/

European Red Herring



Red Herring announced its Top 100 award winners today, private companies and celebrating their innovations and technologies across their respective industries. Red Herring's Top 100 Europe list has become a mark of distinction identifying promising companies and entrepreneurs. Red Herring's editors were among the first to recognise that companies such as Facebook, technology has, for the first Twitter, Google, Yahoo, Skype, time, broken the link between Salesforce.com, YouTube, and eBay would change the way we live and work.

Red Herring selects companies that show the most potential for disruption and growth. Alex Vieux, publisher and CEO of Red Herring said "We looked at hundreds and hundreds of candidates from all across the continent, and after much thought and debate, narrowed the list down to the Top 100 Winners. Each year, the competition gets tougher but we believe Automsoft demonstrates the vision, drive and innovation that define a Red Herring winner."

Páraic O'Toole, Automsoft's CEO said "It's a great honour to be selected as one of Red Herring's Top 100 Tech companies in Europe for 2013. is a testament to the innovation and creativity of our team over the last number of years, as well as our many customers around the world who have implemented our software and are deriving tangible benefits for their business from our software."

a software Automsoft is company that has developed revolutionary technology for managing time-series data collection, storage and webbased analytics. Time series data is generated by sensor networks, control systems, metering systems across industries such as smart grid, process manufacturing, micro-grid, oil and gas and many others. Timeseries data management is the last big challenge in Big Data – massive volumes of the data generated by the increasing network of devices generating this type of data. Typically, in database technology, the greater the volume of data in the database, the slower the performance. This has been particularly true for time series data. Automsoft's revolutiona-ry database volume and performance so that all of the data can analysed without performance impact. It is the result of many years of research, is live in thousands of sites around the world and is now starting to be applied in the smart grid and cleantech world.

automsoft.com/

Web-based training



& **Profibus** Profinet International (PI) is offering web-based training for the ProfiSafe communication profile. ProfiSafe is a safety layer that extends capabilities of these fieldbus systems. The additional safety layer enables safety-related automation functions to be transmitted over standard buses. The web-based training introduces users to the basics of safety technology. Examples are used to familiarise users with the functional principles of safetysystems (fail-safe related systems). Afterwards, the webbased training presents the functional principal and the safety mechanisms of ProfiSafe. This training provides a new opportunity to convey information in a particularly descriptive manner, beyond what is possible with

In response to the increasing recognising Europe's leading how to collect, store and analyse conventional teaching tools, like lectures, printed documents, or presentations. Technical concepts can be presented more clearly using animation, settings can be changed in the processes at the press of a button, and complex subjects can be explained in a stepwise fashion.

www.profibus.com/WBT/PROFIsafe/

Water & Wastewater **Innovation**



Water! In many countries the collection and distribution of water has been ignored for many years and the industry has languished due to lack of investment in some places since the nineteenth century. The same can also be said to be true of the disposal of waste. In recent vears however a understanding of the necessity to upgrade systems has developed. This is underlined not only from cases of contamination of water supplies from lack of treatment facilities but also because of increased demand especially in urban areas.

The recent Water/Waste Water Innovation Conference organised recently by Mitsubishi **Electric Factory Automation** and DDC Ltd was therefore a highly relevant event. Subtitled New "Capitalising on Innovation and solutions" it attracted a good representative assembly of Irish local authority and and other interested parties Mitsubishi's Irish headquarters in Dublin. Read our account which is impression rather than a detailed account of the various presentations.

wp.me/pt7Kv-1PV

Office opened!

Endress+Hauser is well known as a global leader in the provision of measurement instrumentation, services and solutions for industrial process engineering. With their support, customers can optimise their processes in terms of economic efficiency, safety and environmental protection.



Cristoph Roche, E+H General Manager
Ireland with Minister Seán Sherlock TD
Established in Clane over 30
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quickly expanded into a thriving
sales and service organisation,
and now employs an
experienced workforce. Their
network of sales and service
engineers covers the length and
breadth of the Ireland, ensuring

we're always on hand to help. Endress+Hauser's presence in Ireland has grown significantly more recently. Continuity is highly regarded in organisation and the company has kept growing over the years and expects to do so into the future. Their_new office in Little Island, Cork, is taking its part in carrying on this tradition as it increases its team strengthens its closeness to its customers in the area.

To celebrate this key milestone on Friday 24th May 2013, Minister Seán Sherlock TD – Minister for Research and Innovation (Part of the Ministry of Education & Skills), officially opened the new premises.

Endress+Hauser was touring Ireland its state-of-the-art Democar during the last two weeks of May. This 40ft lorry brought the latest technologies in process automation to its key Irish customers. The mobile exhibition unit usually tours around continental Europe but



this year in celebration the Irish Gathering Initiative, It travelled from Germany to Ireland, strength-ening relationships between Ireland and the rest of Europe particularly in the field of automation.

endress.ie

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Picture above: L to R: Mr. Jerry O'Gorman (B&B MD EMEA) Mr. Tony Mahony (MD DataLink Communications) Mr. Stephen Hand (Regional Sales Executive B&B).

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Ferryboxes



Xylem Analytics UK and Aanderaa Data Instruments have launched a new marine water quality monitor which has been designed to enable wider extremely valuable for the

deployment of water quality management and protection of sensors on ferries and other marine The 'SOOGuard' will be launched at Ocean Business 2013 in April and Xylem's **David Goldsmith** says: "In order to encourage the operators of ferries to allow the installation of monitoring equipment on their vessels, it is vitally important that the instrumentation is easy to maintain and reliable.

"Traditional FerryBoxes are very expensive bespoke systems, but by combining consider-able design experience with the latest and sensor datalogging technology, the SOOGuard offers improved performance at a substantially lower cost."

Ferries, container ships and other vessels continuously traverse ocean and coastal environments repeated in journeys that offer an excellent opportunity to generate high quality information on surface water quality. This data is

the oceans; for informing global meteorology and climate change research; for calibrating satellite imagery, and for management of fisheries.

The system's four sensors (conductivity, temperature, optical dissolved oxygen and chlorophyll a) are fitted onto the door of a flow-through cell - a design that allows simple and rapid cleaning. The sensors are stable and require calibration checks less than once a year in most environments. Further flow-though cells can be allow fitted to for measurement of additional parameters.

www.xylemanalytics.co.uk



Water industry enclosures

Rittal's CS New Basic enclosures, made of alumin-ium, offer clear advantages over

Stout service from Classic!

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Successful Cork launch







There was a large attendance at the launch by **Douglas Controls** and Automation of the SIEMENS TIA Portal V12 and Safety Innovations Tour in Cork in June. Pictures taken at the event include Douglas's Anthony Barrett and Eugene Pigott and Siemens' Martin Feely. Aidan Byrne of Siemens demonstrated the range of safety equipment.

www.douglas-esl.ie

conventional plastic or glass-fibre-reinforced enclosures. More flexibility in the manufacturing of switch-gear & better protection against weather influences are some of the reasons why this highly robust material is particularly convincing for rugged outdoor enclosure technology use.

Aluminium withstands external conditions much better than glass fibre due to the resistance of the material to UV radiation. Another advantage of aluminium is its flexibility as enclosures can be built in the desired size much more quickly. By contrast, plastic requires the designing of casting moulds, which is both protracted and cost-intensive.

Whether for the processing of drinking water, waste water treatment or measurement of the ground water level, along with solutions produced for pump stations and sewage treatment plants, ranging from simple to highly complex, Rittal can supply manufactur-ed-toorder outdoor enclosures from its CS New Basic series, along with accessory components for interior installation such as compact enclosures, heaters, thermostats and enclosure lights.

These single-wall outdoor enclosures are made of aluminium (AlMg3) and painted in RAL 7035 (powder-coated). In addition, the CS New Basic enclosure can also include protection class IP55 and NEMA 3R through the bottom plates offered as accessories. The single-door or two-door enclosure is available in widths of 600/800/1,200 mm, heights of 800/1,200 mm and depths of 400/500 mm. Accessories include concrete bases/plinths, divided gland plates, cable entry plates, mounting plates, 482.6 mm (19") mounting angles, heaters, thermostats and semicylinders for the locking system.

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Village installs local flood alarm system



village in the English county of Notting-hamshire has installed a new high-tech river monitoring system that automatically issues text (sms) message alarms so that residents can implement flood protection measures.

Oxton has a history of flooding problems and with an increased frequency of flood events, Parish Councillor **Dr. Ian Kilpatrick** says: "The monitoring system is designed to provide sufficient advance notice to enable the village's emergency response flood team to try to protect the properties that are most at risk."

According to the British Met Office, 2012 was the second wettest year since records began, and whilst the effects of climate change on rainfall are still unclear, it is likely that more frequent extreme weather events including the prolonged and intense rainfall that results in flooding will occur.

Flood warnings in England and Wales are issued by the Environment Agency (EA) which records rainfall and operates a network of monitoring stations that measure river and sea levels. Data from this network are used to generate flood warnings and the EA aims to issue these at least 2 hours in advance of flooding.

Over 5 million people in England and Wales live and work in properties that are at risk of flooding from rivers or the sea, and the cost of flooding in 2012 has been estimated at £1billion (1.17euro) which is almost double the annual investment in England and Wales for building and maintaining flood defenses.

The problem in Oxton

Oxton village has a long history flood-related prob-lems caused in large part by the local geography which during times of high rainfall, funnels land, road surface and lake water into a stream (known locally as the Oxton Dumble) which passes through the village eventually flows into the Dover Beck. The construction of a flood relief channel in 1984 was designed to take much of this excess water around the village perimeter and whilst this has undoubtedly been beneficial, the channel needs to be regularly maintained and kept clear of bushes, trees and other debris if it is to be given a chance to cope with the more extreme rainfall events.

Subscription to the EA's flood warning system can provide timely alerts to those in flood-susceptible areas. Occasion-ally and for various reasons, however, even the flood relief channel in Oxton cannot cope and in both 2007 and 2009, flooding caused devastation to a number of residents' homes and local businesses; 14 homes were damaged in 2007. Even as

recently as December 2012 and January 2013, properties narrowly escaped flooding although roads in the village became impassable and water was brought up to doorsteps.

Flooding in Oxton is therefore related to the river levels and rainfall that are recorded by the EA, but because of local conditions, flooding can occur even when the EA has not issued a warning.

The solution

Recognising a need to be able to monitor water level in the village stream with an ability to raise an alarm when certain conditions arise, Oxton's Parish Council obtained a monitor from OTT Hydrometry known as an 'Orpheus Mini' (right) which has been installed in the water course and now monitors and logs water temperature and level continuously. An alarm level has been set and when this is reached, the instrument automatically issues an alarm text message to members of Oxton's volunteer emergency response flood team and to those residents whose properties are most susceptible to flooding. After receiving an alert, the flood team assembles at its resilience store to begin the deployment and building of temporary flood defenses, including Aqua-Sacs, to prevent the rising waters from reaching residents' homes.

In December last year, the level monitor raised the alarm three times, initiating the successful deployment of the village flood plan and prevented any significant damage.

Explaining the advantages of Oxton's early flood warning system, Dr. Kilpatrick says, "As a result of recent events, the residents are more sensitive to water levels than most. However, we can't watch the stream every day of the year or

at night, so a continuous automatic monitor is the ideal solution.

"The instrument has raised several flood alerts since its installation in July 2012 and thereby helped us to prevent similar disasters to those experienced in 2009, 2007 and earlier."



Oxton's Clearly, flooding potential is affected by a number of local conditions. However, OTT Hydrometry's Managing Director, Simon Wills, believes that many more communities suffer from a similar susceptibility and would therefore benefit from this technology. "Both sensor and telemetry technology have advanced considerably in recent years, so we are now able to supply low cost, easy to use, 'off the shelf' equipment that can provide residents with vital advance notice of local flood conditions.

This does not in any way replace the flood warnings that are issued by the Environment Agency, but it does enable local people to build a reliable lowcost warning system that is dedicated to their specific needs."

www.ott.com



DIT held their annual College Awards Night in April.

Mitsubishi Electric Ireland
sponsored the Best Academic
Performance in the Final Year
of the B Eng Tech in Control &
Automation Systems in
Academic Year 2011 – 2012.
Here we awarded the students
with a certificate of
achievement and a Mitsubishi Award Medal. Successful students received a cash prize also. The two students achieved joint first place were Ian Ingram and Ross Cusack. Picture above shows Ross Cusack receiving his award from Morgan Rusk, Business Development Agent with Mitsubishi.



Past President Kieran Coughlan hands over the ISA Ireland Presidential Chain to Liam O'Brien at the recent AGM. (Pic Creative Photography)



Peter Walsh is the next Chief Executive of The Society of Operations Engineers (SOE).



Festo has appointed **Tony Gillard** as New Business
Development Manager,
Process Automation, with a
focus on the water and
wastewater treatment industry.

Dónal Dunne R.I.P.

We were saddened and shocked to hear of the sudden death in May of Donal Dunne, principal of Industrial *Temperature* Sensors. The funeral was attended by his many friends and business associates who have know him since his early work in Industrial Instruments Manufacturing in Dublin and his subsequent involvement in manufacture of high class temperature sensors in Naas, Co Kildare.

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Wayne Ashworth has been appointed Product Manager at SolutionsPT, with particular responsibility for industrial communications, encompassing industrial IT security and mobile.



One of the joys of visiting events throughout the world is to be able to meet face-to-face with twitter and social media friends. Here **Eoin Ó Riain** met **Chris Amstutz** at the Emerson event in Switzerland.

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