

AT SHORT NOTICE

Freelance controls production of Life Science intermediate at Clariant's

Clariant is producing an intermediate pesticide product at the Griesheim location in a new plant that has especially been erected for this purpose. ABB supplied the process control system Freelance for the production plant the time schedule of which was extremely tight.

Large-scale tonnages of conventional chemical products – this once was the main activity at the Clariant plant in Griesheim, a district of Frankfurt/Main. But that is a thing of the past. Clariant decided to reorganize this location to a centre for life science intermediate products with a high creation of value.

The prime example for the change in the chemical production at Griesheim is an intermediate, a central element for a pesticide developed in close cooperation with a retail customer. The commissioning of the more than 20 million DM discontinuous production plant erected especially for this purpose started in April 2001.

Flexibility and know-how required



ABB Automation Systems received from Clariant the order for the installation of the process control system Freelance, which has been used for the first time at the location Griesheim. In addition to the technical features the limited time schedule was an important criterion for placing the order. From the award of the contract to the commissioning of



the system a period of somewhat more than three months was available.

Matthias Bauer, responsible sales manager at ABB Process Industries in Eschborn, stated: "For plants of this size Freelance is really ideal. In addition to the large scalability, the system stands for its higher than average availability. Moreover, the comparatively low hardware effort is a reason for the favourable price-performance ratio of the modern compact system Freelance."

Apart from the process control system, which is mounted in two system cubicles, Remote I/Os of Messrs. Stahl for the hazardous area as well as the system commissioning belonged to the ABB scope of supply. The system at Griesheim has got four control stations and a separate engineering station. Fibre optics assures the communication of the process and control level. Eight AC 800 F (Fieldcontroller) are used as process stations. The Remote I/Os required by the customer are coupled intrinsically safe to the Fieldcontrollers via PROFIBUS DP. Likewise, different switchgears and the safety-oriented programmable logic controllers are linked via the PROFIBUS.

Matthias Bauer stated that despite the extremely close time frame a smooth handling of the project was possible. The engineering phase was completely trouble-free so that the acceptance of the plant on the part of the customer in the test field of ABB practically was a mere formality.

