CASE STUDY FMC Technologies





Streamlines Business Processes with Wi-Fi Real Time Location System and Asset Tracking Solution

Background

FMC Technologies is a leading global provider of technology solutions for the energy industry. FMC Technologies designs, manufactures and services technologically sophisticated systems and products such as subsea production and processing systems, surface wellhead systems, high pressure fluid control equipment, measurement solutions, and marine loading systems for the oil and gas industry.

Business Challenge

FMC was looking to track their valuable assets throughout their multi site, production plants in Scotland, with the desired outcome of legal compliance and increasing business efficiencies. The FMC production and testing environment is highly volatile and their assets are regularly on the move. Real-time visibility of these assets throughout the manufacturing process is crucial for:

- Compliance with statutory licenses
- Improving and optimising operations
- Increasing production throughput
- Improving plant health and safety

The assets being tracked, by the sophisticated RFID solution, are high value assets used in the manufacture of subsea oil and gas extraction systems, commonly known in the industry as Xmas Trees. Due to the environment in which the devices are used and rigorously tested, the asset tracking tags were required to be secure, waterproof and ATEX certified.

Solution

Boston Networks executed an extensive consultation process, with a dedicated FMC project team, to explore the various options on offer. A bespoke RFID solution, similar to those already proven in the Manufacturing and Healthcare sectors, was taken forward as the most fit-for-purpose solution.

Following a thorough planning process, Boston designed a fully scalable and robust RFID solution, utilising technology to track multiple assets throughout FMC's production plants. With a requirement to ensure visibility within different bays, located within the main areas of the production plants...

Solution

The solution compromises three key elements; Choke point exciters, RFID Access points and Asset visibility software. The meticulous design and implementation of the solution guarantees FMC complete coverage of the desired areas and effectively monitors critical asset flow throughout the plants.

Benefits

The solution has provided FMC with complete visibility of the high value assets, throughout the production and testing process, thus allowing FMC to quickly search for an asset and view its real time location. Moreover, Boston Networks expanded the capacity of the initial solution to enable FMC to track periphery equipment in addition to its larger assets. Delivering visibility at such a granular level, and more so than any other system, was an added benefit for FMC, resulting in an even greater return on investment in terms of production efficiency.

By combining various sources of location, status and conditioning data over the bespoke Wi-Fi networks, into a single platform, the Boston Networks solution enables FMC to maintain asset visibility in a busy and challenging environment. Location and status information is automatically populated and integrated with critical enterprise applications and key business processes, such as asset shortage reporting and operational updates.

Client Testimony

"Just had a run through of MobileView and I love it. It's exceeding my expectations. Brilliant work, particularly with the challenges FMC threw in front of them." John Johnston, Health, Safety and Radiation Advisor, FMC Technologies.

About Boston Networks

Boston Networks is a leader in the design, planning, installation and support of high-performance Intelligent Building Systems and Wireless Solutions.

Specialising in Cabling Services, Network Infrastructure, Wireless LAN & WAN and Integrated Security Systems, encompassing CCTV, Access Control, Fire Safety and Intruder Detection, we offer the best of breed technologies and deliver a comprehensive range of bespoke solutions and professional Support Services throughout the UK.