



# Prodigy News

UPDATE

Issue No. 10

## Prodigy Takes a Battering at Nordale Foods!

Nordale Foods Ltd are the largest manufacturers of frozen Yorkshire puddings in the UK. When their Managing Director, Ian Whitfield decided to implement the first stage in a factory wide SCADA system, he turned to Instrumentation Systems and Services for advice. ISS recommended Tascomp's Prodigy package for it's low entry cost and ability to grow into an integrated factory-wide system.

The first stage of the project is now complete. Production information from a total of four multi-zone ovens is continuously monitored using serial communications to a range of West controllers. The Prodigy system provides a range of facilities

including; batch record collection, recipe handling, live production mimics and alarm monitoring.



By using a number of ADAM remote data acquisition modules, ISS were able to collect batter and cold storage temperatures from a number of locations around the factory. The two-wire serial network which connects these devices provides an economical way of collecting a wide range of process measurements which are spread thinly around a large factory. The second stage of this project is now under way.

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## Anglian Windows Extrusion Monitoring.

Development of a pilot scheme to monitor the first of 22 PVC extruders at Anglian Windows has now begun.



Following extensive market research, Prodigy was chosen for it's flexibility, UK origins and unique facilities such as time translation on trend displays and its excellent batch handling tools Prodigy will use Field 1000 data

acquisition modules to monitor a wide range of process variables from the extruder, calibrator table and haul off system. It will also collect data on the PVC mix from the main compound plant. This information will be used to gain a better understanding of the complex extrusion process. This should then allow Anglian Windows to make informed adjustments to the control parameters in order to increase throughput and reduce raw material consumption. The system will also make use of the Prodigy Interconnect package to share live process values via a local PC network.

## Competitive Upgrade Offer

**For a limited period, users of competitive SCADA packages can save up to 60% on Prodigy.** This offer applies to all Prodigy orders placed before 31st August which are accompanied by the manuals and discs of a competitor's SCADA package.

This offer has proved to be particularly attractive to companies whose existing SCADA systems are in need of upgrade due to millennium-related problems. Please telephone for details on how you could qualify for this offer.



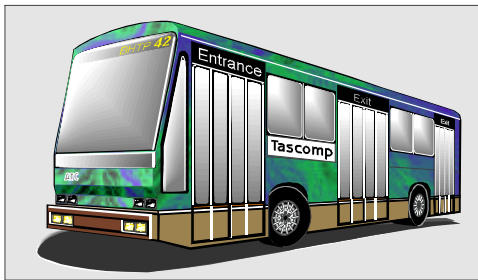
## Thermal Imaging

Data from Raytek's range of thermal line scanners can now be captured directly by Prodigy. For the first time, this will allow thermal images from up to ten MP40 line scanners to be combined with related process measurements on a single PC system. This will not only provide a better picture of the process but will also reduce the overall system cost.

Display formats include: thermal image, thermal profile, 3D waterfall and sector trending. Facilities include: rolling buffer snapshot, zone/sector alarms, configuration recipes and history review. *For further details contact Phil Howard at Instrumentation Systems and Services. Tel: 01943 602001*

## Testing Times For Public Service Vehicles.

Tascomp have recently received an order for a Prodigy based system which will be used to perform comparative tests on a large fleet of public service vehicles.



Vehicle tests will be performed using a dynamometer controlled rolling road. The Prodigy system will be configured to control the load applied to a rolling road and adjust a throttle actuator according to predefined automatic test sequences. Control modes will include: throttle position; engine speed; dynamometer load and gear selection.

Key performance indicators including gear change points, thermostat opening/closing temperatures, maximum oil pressure, minimum battery voltages etc. are all detected automatically by the Prodigy system.

Vehicle history will be logged automatically to a Microsoft Access-compatible database. The reason each test is performed, along with the operator and test sequence, will be logged and users will be able to supplement this with comments and setup information.

The Prodigy Interconnect package will also be used to give remote access to test data and to allow engineers on another site to monitor the current test state and to view vehicle performance.

## Machine Utilisation and Downtime Monitoring

Tinsley Wire (part of the Bekeart group of companies) are to use Prodigy's downtime monitoring package to collect information on 6 welded mesh machines in use at their Sheffield site.



Proximity sensors will detect each cycle of the machine to provide a count of the number of weld operations performed. Prodigy will use this count to derive a measure of current, hourly, maximum and average weld rate. The hourly weld rate will be continuously checked and an alarm raised if the target production rate is not being achieved.

Prodigy will use the current weld rate

to determine whether the machine is running/stopped. Stoppage times will be automatically accrued against a pre-defined set of stoppage codes. These codes will be entered by the machine operators using low cost Prodigy Remote terminals which will be located at each machine..

## News in Brief



### RoverCarsChoose Prodigy

After the successful implementation of a number of gearbox test systems, Rover Cars have now ordered a Prodigy-ET system to control and monitor automatic testing on one of their high speed axle test rigs.

## ZENECA

Zeneca have chosen Tascomp's Prodigy SCADA package to monitor experiments performed in one of the UK's leading toxicology laboratories. The system will use 86 ADAM modules to monitor experiments carried out in 20 separate laboratory areas. Each area will also be equipped with a Prodigy Remote terminal which will allow the scientists to start/stop and monitor the progress of any experiment from any location in the building.



Holliday Chemical Holdings, formerly Reckitts Colours Hull have been using systems supplied by Tascomp for almost 15 years. Their latest project involves the addition of new outstations to monitor firing temperatures in the chambers of three new 'Bombs' used for the manufacture of their famous blue dye.



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