FOUNDATION™ Fieldbus End Users Council Australia

Newsletter **Issue No 18- June 2004**

FROM THE CHAIR

Hi Everone, Wow it is nearly July already and we are half way through the year. Anyway I hope and trust that this newsletter finds you all busy and enjoying life.

The FFEUC-Aus has had a busy six months, although as members you would not have seen a great deal because things are happening in the background. Much of our focus has been on getting the "hands on" training kits off the ground, along with the preparation for Jump Aboard 2004 which we aim to make the "best ever" seminar. This will be a huge task after the fantastic event that we had last year. The subcommittee of Allen Tighe (chair), Tiong Lim, Kevin Barnes, David Edge, Michael Wagner, Duncan Turner, Brian van Bueren and I are all tirelessly working towards that high expectation (thanks guys!). The theme this year is "OPEX EXCELLENCE" which is very important since it will explore the huge bottom line benefits which can be achieved by implementing this technology.

It is also very gratifying that we are seeing projects here in Australia starting to take up Foundation fieldbus in a big way and many others at least talking about it. Our understanding is that the Woodside Offshore division have a policy that all new projects will be Foundation Fieldbus, which has been underpinned by both the Enfield and Otway projects. Also the huge BHP Billiton Ravensthorpe project will incorporate FF.

Mind you we still have many doubters including engineers, managers and others who basically will knock anything "new" in order to maintain the comfort zone of "if it isn't broken and makes plenty of money why fix it?" Well one can take this approach but it will eventually result in a rude awakening because things MUST CHANGE. I was reading just the other day that in the next five years over 60% of the craft trades in the USA will be retiring…is this a crisis or what? Have you noticed how the engineering and maintenance numbers on your plant have been eroded over the years? Is there less work…hardly? Has the plant turned into a rust bucket…perhaps? The point is one cannot just drop numbers with the present technical hardware infrastructure and expect not to increase risk by doing it. How can this looming problem of having to either rapidly train thousands of people or retain the core group be achieved? Well part of the answer is by using FF as an enabler. The digital platform gives one the opportunity to work smarter by getting some "Artificial Intelligence" in the plant via really Smart Instrumentation which can provide plant health information and enable predictive maintenance techniques, linking at the same time to optimise data warehouses.

I hear of huge plants which have an expansion planned and are designing a "Carbon Copy" – A carbon copy of 10 year plus technology. This is so short sighted and typical of project rather than LIFECYCLE mentality. Personally I find it so frustrating that the upper management of companies do not stop this way of thinking when a huge shareholder prize which will be ongoing over the whole of the plant is a real possibility. The fact is with FF and other Smart infrastructure one can achieve huge changes from the paradigms of the past, and produce faster, have higher quality, reduce maintenance costs and even more importantly more do it safer!

On other fronts we have to thank Tiong Lim who has been tirelessly working with the FF End user Advisory group on the Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL) Project development. So "watch this space" as some pretty exciting FF developments are in the offering.

Allen Tighe and myself are at present working with some industry training groups which may see us resurrecting the Centre of Excellence Concept.

Once again I highlight that the Foundation Fieldbus System Engineering Guide is available for free on the web at www.fieldbus.org . This was prepared by the FFEUAC committee and is a great resource.

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International Seminar 'OpEx Excellence though FF'
Auckland New Zealand- Friday 17th September(Tentative)
Brisbane – Monday 20th September
Melbourne – Wednesday 22nd September
Perth – Friday 24th September
Make a note in your Diary!!

This Foundation™ Fieldbus End Users Council Australia (Inc) seminar is a major event which brings together international experts to present their experience around the theme of "OpEx Excellence through FF". The line up of International speakers must rank as one of the best ever. The presentations cover a diverse subject range including;

- **OpEx - Data to Knowledge to Profits**
- **Fieldbus Foundation - Future Directions**
- **Online Plant Asset Management**
- **OpEx Reduction with Foundation fieldbus**
- **Surge Protection & OpEx Maintenance Savings**
- **Process Controls New Challenge - Security**
- **Smart Plants – "breaking out from the legacy"**

Honeywell

Gold Sponsor

Foundation fieldbus is the next quantum leap in DIGITAL Instrument Technology. It has the potential to provide huge savings and gains in the efficiency of a plant. Those with "vision" and foresight will move their respective organisations to a "best in class" category. Come along and reap those benefits - networking and learning from some of the most respected Foundation fieldbus experts in the world.

Featuring International Presenters :

Keynote by Honeywell **(USA)**
Dave Glanzer **(FF USA)**
Thorsten Krohn **(Hatch Ravensthorpe JV)**
Ian Verhappen **(ICEpros Canada)**
Chris Ground **(MTL UK)**
Deanna Johnson **(Emerson USA)**
Dave Smith **(Yokogawa USA)**
Jim Russell **(IceWeb)**
Jonas Berge **(Smar Singapore)**

Silver Sponsor

Thanks to Sponsors Honeywell (Gold) and MTL (Silver). Additional sponsorship spots are available, contact Allen Tighe for details.

FOUNDATION™ Fieldbus Training in Australia

The SAIT essentials 1 day training is still available, please contact Allen Tighe for further details.

FOUNDATION™ Fieldbus Interoperability Test Kit 4.6

Now Available!

Enhanced testing tool provides additional assurance of device interoperability
The Fieldbus Foundation's newly released ITK 4.6 is designed to verify the functionality of a device with the FOUNDATION fieldbus specifications. ITK 4.6 supports the latest common file format (FS 1.7 Specification) and enhances the ITK automation toolkit.
The ITK 4.6 also supports test cases for the Pressure Transducer Block, including new enhancements and fixes, and supports the new DD/CF self re-registration process requiring verifiable ITK 4.6 test results.
The enhanced ITK 4.6 testing tool enables end users to have best-in-class fieldbus devices chosen for their specific control applications, and those products are fully interoperable, delivering all of the benefits of FOUNDATION fieldbus technology.

For More Information

To learn more about the ITK 4.6 test kit, contact Member Services at member.services@fieldbus.org

LATEST INFORMATION VIA THE FFEUC-AUS WEBSITE

For the latest information on all FFEUC-Aus Inc activities and some great Foundation fieldbus technical data please visit our website http://www.fieldbus.org.au

Fieldbus Foundation Conducts Successful 2004 General Assembly

Organization's 10th anniversary "mega-event" sets attendance record
Austin, Texas, March 2, 2004 — The Fieldbus Foundation conducted its 2004 General Assembly in New Orleans, LA, on February 18-19. The organization's 10th anniversary "mega-event" set new attendance records, as members of the plant automation industry gathered for two days of FOUNDATION™ fieldbus technology seminars, application presentations and business meetings.
The 2004 General Assembly, held at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, attracted more than 150 attendees and featured a table-top exhibition of the latest FOUNDATION fieldbus products from the world's major automation equipment suppliers. Representations from leading end-user companies such as Shell and BP were also on-hand for the event.

The General Assembly program was highlighted by a keynote address by Fieldbus Foundation Chairman John Berra. Mr. Berra's presentation, entitled "Fieldbus Foundation: A Decade of Leadership," looked back at 10 years of fieldbus achievement around the world. Tracing the foundation's progress since its founding in 1994, Mr. Berra recalled the development of the FOUNDATION fieldbus H1 and High Speed Ethernet (HSE) specifications, successful field trials at Monsanto Chocolate Bayou and other user sites, and the effort to establish an international fieldbus standard.

"The Fieldbus Foundation has prospered thanks to the extraordinary commitment of the automation supplier and end-user communities," said Mr. Berra. "Our success can be attributed to the strong leadership of our past and current presidents, John Pittman and Rich Timoney; an involved board of directors; voluntary labor by the best technology minds in the business; active global end-user councils; and a lot of persistence and patience."

In a second keynote address, Shell Chemical Asset Development Manager James Rhame discussed his company's adoption of FOUNDATION fieldbus as part of its reinstrumentation projects around the world. Mr. Rhame indicated that the implementation of fieldbus technology provides an opportunity to improve plant stability, reliability and asset utilization, as well as reduce operating and maintenance fixed costs and improve variable costs.

As part of the General Assembly program, Fieldbus Foundation staff members reported on the latest FOUNDATION fieldbus technology developments. Stephen Mitschke, product manager, outlined Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL) extensions that provide new tools for advanced configuration and diagnostics. Dave Glanzer, director of technology development, provided an update on projects ranging from standard function blocks, flexible function blocks and Device Descriptions (DDs), to conformance and interoperability testing tools, HSE registration testing, HSE redundancy testing, the DD cooperation project, safety instrumented systems, and power supply testing and registration.

Fieldbus Foundation End-user Advisory Council (EUAC) Chairman Ian Verhappen also provided an overview of fieldbus end-user activities. Among the EUAC's recent achievements were the organization of end-user events around the world, completion of a comprehensive FOUNDATION fieldbus System Engineering Guide, and establishment of a Central Canada End-user Council. Mr. Verhappen informed attendees about the progress of the Fieldbus Foundation Safety Instrumented Systems (FF-SIS) project, development of new transducer blocks, and enhancements to the foundation's Host Interoperability Support Test (HIST).

General Assembly participants heard John Rezabek, lead controls engineer for BP BDO Manufacturing, describe current end-user issues related to fieldbus adoption. Mr. Rezabek also detailed plans for a Flexible Function Block (FFB)/HSE demonstration at BP's Lima, Ohio, BDO plant.

Larry O'Brien, research director for the ARC Advisory Group, outlined best practices for maximizing the value of fieldbus implementations. Mr. O'Brien termed fieldbus technology "a plant asset management enabler," and said that justification of fieldbus projects should go beyond initial cost considerations to focus on lifecycle cost savings.

In other presentations, Chris Towle of MTL discussed the effects of lighting-induced surges on fieldbus circuits; and Jonas Berge of Smar Singapore described the open, integrated FOUNDATION fieldbus architecture for information integration.

Two Fieldbus Foundation-certified training organizations, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (Calgary, Alberta, Canada) and the Fieldbus Center at Lee College (Baytown, TX) conducted workshops for FOUNDATION fieldbus end-users and system integrators that were applauded by attendees.

Fieldbus Foundation members conducted their 2004 business meeting during the General Assembly. Participants were briefed by Foundation President Richard Timoney on the organization's membership growth, expanding device registration program, technology initiatives and marketing activities. Mr. Timoney commended the membership for its support of the James O. Gray Scholarship Fund, an endowed scholarship honoring long-time fieldbus supporter Jim Gray of Invensys/Foxboro.

Foundation members also elected a new slate of board members for the 2004-2005 term. They include: Mr. Ron Szanyi, ExxonMobil; Mr. David Eisner, Honeywell; Mr. Steve Eisenbrown, Rockwell Automation ; Mr. Motofumi Matsumura, Fuji Systems; and Mr. John Eva, Invensys.

About the Fieldbus Foundation™

The Fieldbus Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation consisting of over 200 leading process and manufacturing automation companies worldwide whose major purpose is to provide an open and neutral environment for the development of a single, international, interoperable fieldbus. In this environment, end users, manufacturers, universities and research organizations are working together to develop the technology, provide development tools, support and training, coordinate field trials and demonstrations, and enable product interoperability. Visit their web site at www.fieldbus.org.

Did you know that **Fieldbus Forums** is a new online community for the exchange of fieldbus information?

This interface lets FOUNDATION fieldbus technology experts, end users, product suppliers, and others around the world interact in an open, web-based community—and it's available to members and non-members. **Fieldbus Forums** makes it easy for those with an interest in fieldbus to find answers to their questions about the technology, and learn from the experiences of their counterparts across the globe.

Click here to register for **Fieldbus Forums**. It's free!

Latest FF News

- **DID YOU KNOW...**the Foundation's Technical Documents are available online? Click here to view or download.
- **Get the latest Fieldbus facts by clicking the logo below.**

- **There are now 205 registered products, just click on the link to see them all**

Fieldbus Foundation Expands Global Marketing Committees With Indonesian Chapter

New organization reflects increased participation by industry members

AUSTIN, Texas, June 2, 2004 — The Fieldbus Foundation today announced the latest expansion of its list of global FOUNDATION™ fieldbus marketing committees with the formation of an Indonesian chapter. The new Fieldbus Foundation Marketing Committee (FFMC)-Indonesia conducted its kick-off meeting on May 10, 2004, at which time it elected a pro-tem committee and planned for future activities.

Infraserv Höchst Technik Now Fully Certified As Fieldbus Foundation Centre of Excellence in Germany

Hanover, Germany, 21 April, 2004 — The Fieldbus Foundation announced that its Centre of Excellence for FOUNDATION™ fieldbus technology located at Infraserv Höchst Technik's facility in Frankfurt am Main, Germany, is now fully certified to provide a comprehensive list of fieldbus technology related services to the end user community as well as an extensive schedule of Fieldbus Foundation training courses.

Infraserv Höchst Technik To Host FF-SIS Validation Testing

Laboratory prototypes from multiple suppliers key to validation testing

HANNOVER, Germany, 21 April, 2004 — The Fieldbus Foundation, conducting a press briefing today at the Interkama 2004 Trade Fair in Hannover, Germany, announced that Infraserv Höchst Technik, an independent consultancy located in Frankfurt, Germany, that grew out of the former Hoechst engineering division, will host Fieldbus Foundation Safety Instrumented Systems (FF-SIS) laboratory specification validation testing during 2004.

Standard Transducer Block Final Specification Released

Standard pressure transducer block is the first to be released

HANNOVER, Germany, 21 April, 2004 — The Fieldbus Foundation, conducting a press briefing today at the Interkama 2004 Trade Fair in Hannover, Germany, announced release of the final specification for a standard pressure transducer block (TB). Like function blocks, TBs are key components of the open, integrated FOUNDATION™ fieldbus architecture for information integration. TBs reside at the fieldbus User Layer and are used to make sensor-related parameters needed for calibration and diagnostics visible to the fieldbus network.

Have you upgraded your PC and have licenced copies of WIN 2K just stuck in the cupboard?

A donation of this software would be much appreciated; we require 3-5 copies for our training kits. Any Companies or individuals who could help with this please contact please contact Allen on 9243 0161 or via email.