

Fan Control Gives Security for Slovenian Cement Production



At Slovenia's premier cement producer, production output has been assured with the installation of a 1 MW fan drive and motor supplied by Control Techniques' reseller, PS Logatec.

The project, carried out by Hidroinženiring d.o.o. of Ljubljana, was to improve the reliability of the massive fan supplying hot air from the output of the cement oven. One critical feature of the control is to avoid the huge, four-metre fan running at its resonant frequency, causing a build-up of vibrations, oscillation and damage to the fan.

Everything about this installation is massive. The fan motor alone weighs more than six tonnes, the main shaft diameter is 140-mm, each of the four cables to the motor comprises three 240-mm diameter wires and the current on the 690 volt system exceeds 1,000 amps! Not surprisingly, the drive chosen for the task is equally substantial – a Unidrive SP modular drive with one master unit and eight slave modules that, together, make up the required total of 1 MW. The master unit is additionally fitted with an SM Profibus DP module to give direct communications to the SCADA control system and an SM Ethernet module for remote monitoring and access.

The motor selected for this onerous duty is a 690V LEROY-SOMER FSA 3-phase asynchronous fan motor, designed for a long service life in extreme operating conditions such as being adjacent to this cement oven.

The drive panel built and installed by PS Logatec, is located in an air-conditioned plant room at the cement works.

Sensors on the fan detect the build-up of vibrations and feed back to the SCADA system. During operation, the system ensures that the fan motor accelerates or decelerates rapidly through the critical frequencies. An additional small motor, separated from the main motor by an electrically operated coupling, is also fitted to the motor shaft to turn the fan slowly when it is not in use to prevent heat damage from the furnace.

Because the Unidrive SP is modular, the customer has complete security of operation, since, even if one module does fail, the drive is capable of running at reduced power.

The Control Techniques Unidrive SPM range provides a versatile and cost-effective solution for high power drive requirements, with simple installation and a choice of operating modes to optimise energy costs – multi-pulse, active input or common DC bus configurations all available. This modular range gives clean power with 12, 18 or 24 pulse configurations, is ideal for dynamic loads with in-built brake controller or full regenerative energy control and can reduce running costs by circulating energy between braking and motoring on a common DC bus.



KEY BENEFITS

- IMPROVED RELIABILITY
- SECURITY OF OPERATION
- DIRECT COMMUNICATION TO THE CONTROL SYSTEM
- REMOTE MONITORING & ACCESS FACILITY
- ENERGY SAVING OPTIONS

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<p>BELGIUM Brussels Drive Centre T: +32 1574 0700 controltechniques.be@emerson.com</p>	<p>GREECE* Athens Application Centre T: +0030 210 57 86086/088 controltechniques.gr@emerson.com</p>	<p>KOREA Seoul Application Centre T: +82 2 3483 1605 controltechniques.kr@emerson.com</p>	<p>SWEDEN* Stockholm Application Centre T: +468 554 241 00 controltechniques.se@emerson.com</p>	<p>USA California Drive Centre T: +1 562 943 0300 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Charlotte Application Centre T: +1 704 393 3366 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Chicago Application Centre T: +1 630 752 9090 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Cleveland Drive Centre T: +1 440 717 0123 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Florida Drive Centre T: +1 239 693 7200 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Latin America Sales Office T: +1 305 818 8897 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Minneapolis US Headquarters T: +1 952 995 8000 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Oregon Drive Centre T: +1 503 266 2094 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p> <p>Providence Drive Centre T: +1 401 541 7277 controltechniques.us@emerson.com</p>
<p>BRAZIL Emerson do Brazil Ltda T: +5511 3618 6569 controltechniques.br@emerson.com</p>	<p>HOLLAND Rotterdam Drive Centre T: +31 184 420555 controltechniques.nl@emerson.com</p>	<p>MALAYSIA Kuala Lumpur Drive Centre T: +603 5634 9776 controltechniques.my@emerson.com</p>	<p>SWITZERLAND Lausanne Application Centre T: +41 21 637 7070 controltechniques.ch@emerson.com</p> <p>Zurich Drive Centre T: +41 56 201 4242 controltechniques.ch@emerson.com</p>	<p>TAIWAN Taipei Application Centre T: +886 22325 9555 controltechniques.tw@emerson.com</p>
<p>CANADA Toronto Drive Centre T: +1 905 201 4699 controltechniques.ca@emerson.com</p> <p>Calgary Drive Centre T: +1 403 253 8738 controltechniques.ca@emerson.com</p>	<p>HONG KONG Hong Kong Application Centre T: +852 2979 5271 controltechniques.hk@emerson.com</p>	<p>REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA Johannesburg Drive Centre T: +27 11 462 1740 controltechniques.za@emerson.com</p> <p>Cape Town Application Centre T: +27 21 556 0245 controltechniques.za@emerson.com</p>	<p>THAILAND Bangkok Drive Centre T: +66 2962 2092 99 controltechniques.th@emerson.com</p>	<p>TURKEY Istanbul Drive Centre T: +90 216 4182420 controltechniques.tr@emerson.com</p>
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<p>ARGENTINA Euro Techniques SA T: +54 11 4331 7820 eurotech@eurotechsa.com.ar</p>	<p>CROATIA Zigg-Pro d.o.o T: +385 1 3463 000 zigg-pro@zg.htnet.hr</p>	<p>INDONESIA Pt Apikon Indonesia T: +65 6468 8979 info.my@controltechniques.com</p> <p>Pt Yua Esa Sempurna Sejahtera T: +65 6468 8979 info.my@controltechniques.com</p>	<p>LEBANON Black Box Automation & Control T: +961 1 443773 info@blackboxcontrol.com</p>	<p>NEW ZEALAND Advanced Motor Control. Ph. T: +64 (0) 274 363 067 info.au@controltechniques.com</p>	<p>SERBIA & MONTENEGRO Master Inzenjering d.o.o T: +381 24 551 605 master@eunet.yu</p>
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