Case Study: Honeywell Trendview Paperless Recorders

Application: Process Data Monitoring Medical Products Sterilizer Company

After successfully testing a paperless recorder for a year, the customer decided to roll out a nationwide network of Honeywell Trendview paperless recorders.



Problem	This customer needed reliable chart data to prove sterilization times, temperatures, and pressures. But, existing circular chart recorders left their data subject to human error.
Current Business Result	The customer's current method of chart data retrieval is very labor-intensive and subject to the shortcomings of recorders. Occasionally, the recorder runs out of ink, or someone forgets to change the chart, or they install the wrong chart. If any of these things happen, there's no way to guarantee that the desired data really gets recorded.
	Sometimes, after changing the chart paper, an operator would leave the pen off the chart, so there was no data. Or, because there were four black traces on a single chart, referring to four signals, the operator would misread which trace was which, and fail to catch a condition that needed correction.
Solution	The customer installed a single Honeywell paperless recorder and monitored it for a full year to test its reliability. The big attraction was the ability to produce different colored traces on the chart screen, eliminating operator reading errors. The customer also liked the ability to store data on flash memory, and produce a printed chart from a PC when they needed it. When this recorder was proven successful, the customer installed other paperless recorders in plants across the country.
	The recorders were connected to each plant's local area network. And, since each LAN is integrated into the corporate wide-area network (WAN), engineering and research staff at corporate headquarters have access to recorder data in all the plants.
	Engineers in the corporate office administer all 25 nationwide recorders using TrendServer Pro, Honeywell's network-ready management tool. Setups, download scheduling, and memory card conditions are checked periodically. Real-time access to the message log helps them troubleshoot problems, view alarms, and indicate runtime patterns.
	Though the benefits of connecting the recorders to a network weren't part of the original plan, the success of doing so has generated multiple benefits to the company.
Customer Comment	We wanted more reliable data from our recorders. What we got was better data management and troubleshooting over a nationwide network.