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Reference project Grundfos Mixit

Easy BMS integration

Grundfos Mixit is an all-in-one solution for mixing loops in heating and cooling applications. It has been designed to optimize energy efficiency and simplify integration into building management systems. Unlike conventional mixing loops, the required components, including intelligent temperature control, are integrated into a compact control unit. This communicates wirelessly with Magna3 and TPE3 series secondary circuit pumps, offers a wide range of options for BMS and cloud connectivity, and provides more than 100 data points from pump and mixer to monitor and optimize the operation of the mixing loop.

A typical example of seamless integration into an existing management system is a project at the Grundfos plant in Indjija, Serbia. In order to scale up production of the latest generation of energy-efficient circulation pumps, Grundfos expanded its manufacturing facility there. Built in 2013, the plant was extended by 17,600 square meters in 2022, nearly doubling its size. As with all Grundfos construction projects, there were clearly defined water and energy saving targets in line with the company's sustainability goals. In order to achieve these goals and LEED certification, the company's own technology was to be implemented, thus creating a model example.

At the core of the new factory’s HVAC system, is Grundfos Mixit. Combined with high-efficiency Grundfos pumps, it optimizes energy performance with full control and real-time monitoring. Key to maximizing efficiency and comfort was ensuring that the solution would integrate and communicate seamlessly with the factory’s existing BMS, Sauter Vision Center (SVC).

Effortless implementation

Early in the design stages, product specialists from Grundfos headquarters in Denmark collaborated with local facility management to plan the HVAC system and the optimal Mixit implementation. The combined Grundfos team then met with Sauter developers, who were easily able to fully understand the Mixit solution and the necessary steps needed for the integration

process. During the following six months, the HVAC system including a number of Grundfos Magna3 pumps and Mixit control units was installed and commissioned.

Nine Mixit controllers of varied sizes were installed: one each for the underfloor heating and office radiators, and a further seven for the air handling units. Furthermore, a total of 28 Magna3 and 27 TPE energy-efficient circulator pumps were installed, many with high-efficiency IE5 motors. Many data points are transferred wirelessly between Magna3 pumps and Mixit units and in turn to the BMS. The wireless communication between pumps and control units makes this solution unique.

Commissioning and implementation proved to be trouble-free. The Mixit units were integrated into the SVC BMS by Sauter's development team, with communication over Modbus RTU. For requirements of other applications, Mixit's built-in fieldbus is also equipped for communication via Modbus TCP and BACnet (MS/TP or IP).

"The integration of Grundfos Mixit into our Sauter Vision Center BMS was super easy, " says Mladen Vukanac, Managing Director Sauter Building Control, Serbia. "We're really impressed with Mixit, its open communication, and the abundance of parameters available to control." Close cooperation between the Grundfos team and the experienced developers at Sauter also contributed to the straightforward integration of the mixing loop solution.

Significant factor for LEED certification

Multiple of user-friendly data parameters can now be monitored and controlled via the BMS, such as temperature, flow, limiter functions and more. Some of the parameters are transmitted wirelessly from the pumps and thus without any expenditure required on additional communication modules.

Through the BMS, the plant manager is able to control every set point in every factory space to ensure optimal comfort for colleagues in all administration and production areas. The system can be further controlled with calendar and scheduling functions, which together with its system of alert functions saves hours in maintenance time.

The entire factory extension is now fully operational and certified LEED Gold, thereby meeting all the rigorous water- and energy-saving efficiency targets established in the planning phase. Mixit

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was singled out by the certification organisation as a significant contributory factor in achieving this status.

“We naturally wanted to make the best use of our high-efficiency Grundfos technology in our new plant,” says Dušan Plecic, Lead Facility Project Manager. “Now in our LEED Gold certified factory we’re saving significantly on energy, water, and costs, and have total control to provide optimal comfort for our colleagues.”

((caption)) The HVAC system at the Grundfos plant in Indjija (Serbia) is a typical example of the straightforward BMS integration of the Mixit mixing loop solution (image credits: Grundfos)

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