

Alcon reaches the next level of energy efficiency

Uncovering hidden potentials with Siemens Energy Analytics

Customer
Alcon

Location
Puurs, Belgium

Project
Increasing transparency of energy consumption and improving energy efficiency of cleanrooms

Connected to Operation Center
May, 2014

Performance spectrum

- Energy Analytics as managed service
- Access to world-wide network of experts for continuous consulting to improve the energy efficiency
- Definition of KPIs based on initial analysis of facility and assets
- Energy reports based on data of more than 400 measuring points

The Challenge:

Reduction of energy costs and increase of efficiency

The pharmaceutical company Alcon manufactures ophthalmologic products. The production processes require an aseptic environment. To maintain such an environment, the used cleanrooms need energy intensive systems such as water treatments, HVAC, and steam pressure sterilization.

To ensure transparency of the energy consumption and the energy costs, Alcon decided to partner up with Siemens, signing a long-term Energy Analytics service contract. Energy Analytics helps on increasing energy efficiency and therefore to reduce costs.



Alcon production site in Puurs, Belgium

“Energy Analytics provides direct insights into our energy consumption as a service and allows me to focus on the implementation of concrete improvement measures.”

Nancy Lantshoght
Energy Manager, Alcon



Alcon, the second largest division of Novartis, is a global leader in the area of eye-care. The ophthalmological company offers the broadest spectrum of surgical, pharmaceutical, and vision care products to treat several eye diseases and conditions.

The Solution:
Effective energy data management with Energy Analytics

Nancy Lantshoght, Alcon's energy manager on site, has great experience in the area of energy efficiency. With Energy Analytics, she now has a solution to identify further potential for energy optimization.

As Energy Analytics is a managed service, Siemens takes over the responsibility for storing and analyzing the data. This helps Nancy to focus on the implementation of actual energy saving measures. The results of the data analysis are summed up in reports fitted to Alcon's needs. These reports are based on data of more than 400 measuring points, which capture energy-consuming utilities in the production. Subsequently to signing the contract, Siemens assisted Alcon in analyzing its facilities and assets. Based on this analysis, meaningful key performance indicators (KPIs) were defined.

As a customer of Energy Analytics Platinum, Nancy also has access to the know-how of the energy consultants at the Siemens Operation Center. They propose possible energy efficiency improvements. These proposals are verified later on with Alcon regarding their feasibility and profitability.

Results & Benefits:
Concrete savings after only a few months

The strategic partnership with Siemens allowed Alcon to invest valuable capital (CAPEX) into optimization measures right from the start. The Energy Analytics service is paid from the budget of operational expenses (OPEX). Initial measures were implemented just a few months after the site was connected to the Operation Center.

In one of the first projects, the control scheme of two compressors used in the production process was examined. As a result of the analysis, an optimized control scheme was proposed that will reduce the energy consumption of the compressors by about 12%.

From the very beginning, Energy Analytics has ensured transparency of energy consumption. This helps Alcon to comply with legal regulations (e. g. CO2 emissions) and industry standards. Moreover, Alcon was able to optimize the production plant even further only a few months after implementing Energy Analytics and now they are on target to achieve their energy efficiency goals.

The fact that Alcon Puurs submitted this project for the Novartis HSE & Business Continuity Award 2014 is another positive sign for the successful cooperation with Siemens.

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