Integration of Automation Builder and ABB zenon provides powerful automation capabilities for discrete industries

The integration of ABB’s Automation Builder 2.0 and zenon software makes it easier than ever to develop effective automation solutions and unlock the potential of the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Machine builders, system integrators and users in discrete industries such as food and beverage can benefit from faster development, improved compatibility and enhanced use of data for deeper process insights that help to increase their productivity.

Nuremberg, Germany, November 22, 2016 – Every day, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is opening up new possibilities to extract value and benefits from the rapidly growing stream of data and information. ABB is now offering two new integrated software tools, the Automation Builder 2.0 and ABB zenon, a data collection, analysis, visualization and management system developed by the Austrian automation company Copa-Data. Part of ABB’s Ability™ offering of digital solutions these tools help machine builders, system integrators and end-users in discrete industries to reap the full benefits of the Industrial Internet of Things. ABB now enables customers to get their entire digitally connected automation solutions from a single vendor.

Making better business decisions thanks to digital integration

Users of connected devices gain valuable process insights and create transparency that help to make better business decisions. “Simply put, by collecting, analyzing, visualizing and managing the data which already exist in the system, customers can optimize their processes to extract greater profits from this valuable flow of new information”, says Morten Wierod, Managing Director of ABB’s Drives and Controls business unit.

The combined power of Automation Builder and ABB zenon

The integration of ABB zenon Editor with Automation Builder, the AC500 PLC and ABB’s drives and robots portfolio allows the synchronization of hardware information and signal data for efficient data access. There is no need for data to be entered twice ensuring high consistency of information and increased engineering productivity. This saves time and reduces risks, resulting in reduced plant downtime and cost savings.

Achieving these positive results has become much easier thanks to the addition of Automation Builder 2.0 and ABB zenon. These tools, used either individually or in combination, help to reduce the complexity involved in integrating a wide range of connected devices. This speeds the development work to automate these devices while ensuring full compatibility.
Virtual commissioning to simulate complex applications

With the Automation Builder 2.0 software suite, machine builders and system integrators can carry out virtual commissioning that allows them to simulate and automate all kinds of applications with minimum effort. This enables seamless testing of the complete system at an early stage, even when all the necessary hardware is not yet ready. Even complex systems can be built up quickly and efficiently, ensuring smooth interaction of all the components, as well as high reliability and system safety.

ABB zenon extends communications, connectivity and control

To achieve advanced connectivity, the ABB zenon software has been added to ABB’s automation platform for discrete industries. The advantage of the zenon software is that it provides high quality documentation for easy traceability and high transparency of production processes such as in the food and beverage industry, as well as native connectivity to over 300 communication protocols. In addition, it integrates an energy data management system and comprehensive security features.

Advantage through knowledge

With the range of connected devices growing exponentially, enormous amounts of data and information are constantly being generated. “Intelligent capture and exchange of this data is nowadays essential to implement new business models and stay competitive in business,” Morten Wierod concludes.

ABB is driving the Fourth Industrial Revolution

For over 4 decades ABB has been working on process control systems, communications solutions, sensors and software. These digital technologies enable our customers in industries, utilities and infrastructure to analyze data more intelligently, optimize their operations and, boost their productivity and flexibility. We are advancing our digital offering as ABB Ability™, helping our customers develop their existing technologies, while keeping sight of our enduring commitment to safety, reliability, cyber security and data privacy leveraging the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

The product mentioned in this news release extends the offering of ABB in this area.

http://new.abb.com/abb-ability

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ABB zenon provides high quality documentation of production processes and integrates an energy data management system for better business insights.

Automation Builder 2.0 offers virtual commissioning to simulate complex applications with minimum effort.

For more information please contact:
Drives and Controls
Soenke Kock
Head of Global Automation Solutions
Phone: +49 6221 701 1150
e-mail address: soenke.kock@de.abb.com