

LACTALIS reinforces the security of its production process

GUIRANDE ÉLECTRICITE INDUSTRIELLE has integrated MICROMEDIA solutions within a cheese company located in Rodez in France (Société Fromagère de Rodez - LACTALIS group). Tracability for the safety of its products.



LACTALIS GROUP: key figures

- 34 billions francs turnover in 2000 (5.2 billions Euros) - 40 % Export sales
- More than 16 000 persons, 2 100 abroad
- Production :
 - 1 billion litres of milk
 - 140 000 tons of butter
 - 100 000 tons of cream
 - 525 000 tons of cheese

With 66 industrial sites in France and 15 companies located internationally, LACTALIS is the first European private milk group and the first exporter of French milk products. LACTALIS is specialized in milk production : milk, butter, cream, cheese. The group also produces famous milk specialties such feta SALAKIS, camembert PRESIDENT, Roquefort SOCIETE, etc. The factory located in Rodez treats milk, produces cream and two famous cheese specialties: RONDELE and BLEU D'ECOSSE.

Safety and tracability of the production process

The milk production process requires drastic hygiene conditions and huge quantity of calorific energy for UHT sterilization. Several parameters must be controlled permanently: boiler system, central water system, compressed air, water treatment.

To answer the security and tracability needs of this system, the company Guirande Electricité Industrielle (GEI) put a telesupervision solution in place in the factory located in Rodez. The system is composed of ALERT and JERICHO. The data acquisition is achieved by energy management automatons (hot and cold) connected on a FIPWAY network. The alarms are centralized on a TSX57 automaton and transmitted via a MODBUS link to a supervision PC equipped with an Applicom card. ALERT is set up on the supervision PC and receives the alarms from the Applicom card via OPC.

ALERT is used for the management of the alarms (historization, statistics, line printer) and for call of maintenance and on-duty staff.

JERICHO software is also set up on the supervision PC and is used as vocal server. Anyone in the factory who witnesses a problem (fire break out, leak, ...) can call JERICHO (emergency call number) which takes the problem into account and transmits the alarm to ALERT. ALERT then immediately transmits information to an emergency group composed of 10 persons.