ALERA

Knowledge is Power

CASE STUDY

PROCESS TRANFORMATION IN BIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

See how Alera forms and dashboards were used to transform the way the biological analysis process was undertaken within a company

THE PROBLEM

A Client who operates an Anaerobic Digestion plant has many different sources of data and information to help manage the biological health and performance of the plant. These data sources included;

- 3rd party laboratory samples and results.

- Onsite test equipment.

- Daily manual health checks.

Each information source was delivered to the management team in different type and format of data, such as excel, pdf, handwritten notes and PLC automation feeds

All this information required regular processing and assessment to achieve healthy and productive operation of the AD plant. This was taking vast amounts of time and administration just to make the information meaningful. Overall the client was very frustrated and unable to find key "kpi's"

One option was to contract this to a 3rd party provider but this was costly and unable to deliver the quick and flexible service that is needed to biological maintain a healthy AD plant.

THE SOLUTION

The solutions involved several aspects of data collection. Firstly, all the hand written information was transferred onto a App which allowed the operators to seamlessly collect and transfer data into the Alera system, thereby reducing errors and cumbersome administration. Secondly, the 3rd party laboratory results were connected directly into the Alera system allowing the laboratory to automatically transfer data. Finally the automatic biological data from the AD plant was connected to Alera using a unique and cost effective PLC setup without having to affect any aspect of the AD plants' existing operating system.

With all these different data points connected, the Alera team created some simple and intuitive data dashboards which allow operators and manages to view this data in a common place. The client also setup weekly automated emails to the operations team so the laboratory results could be compared with existing live AD plant information. This information is emailed to the team in a PDF form, whilst also been available on both the live dashboard and smartphone App.

The client was then able to understand which key performance indicators (kpi's) were paramount for high performance operation of the AD plant, based on the data analysis provided through the Alera platform

THE BENEFITS

☑ **ACCURATE RECORDS**
☑ **COSTS SAVED**
☑ **FLEXIBLE**

01

Data input accuracy improved

With all the information in one place and automatically processed, the operations team can make factual decisions quickly and effectively. Not duplication, missed records or having to make repeated phone calls, emails to access information.

02

Costs and Time savings

The streamlining and automation of data collection substantially reduced the workload and administration within the business. A reduction of around 5-10hrs per week in administration alone was achieved without considering the benefit of having lots of information presented in a simple dashboard.

03

Flexible and future proof

The simple design and flexibility of Alera allows changes and upgrades to be made quickly and cost effectively. If the client requires different analysis or changes a 3rd party supplier the information stream can be easily changes. Alera can incorporate FTP, api, Excel, CSV, SQL data paths plus many more.

Contact us to find out how Alera unlocks the power of your data

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