

IFAC Industry Connect Webinar

Automation and Control – An Integral Part of Process Operations

Thursday, June 20th, 2024

12:00 UTC (8:00AM EDT, 14:00 CET, AEST 22:00)

Panelists:



Dirk Baas
Principal Advisor:
Process control at Rio
Tinto, Brisbane,
Australia.



Ramesh Kadali
Senior Automation and
Controls Engineer,
Sinopec, Calgary,
Canada.



Sabine Pegel
Plant Manager,
Covestro, Cologne,
Germany.



Eduardo Nunez
VP – Process
Optimization, Molycop,
Kamloops, Canada.

Control systems installed in industrial process plants are often incorrectly tuned and poorly maintained. This includes regulatory PID controllers as well as advanced MPC/RTO solutions¹. They are therefore switched off and the process is partly operated in manual mode. Control loop tuning and monitoring software and services have been on the market for at least two decades but do not seem to have resolved these issues.

Given the substantial benefits that process control offers, including ensuring a safe operation, why does this state-of-affairs persist? Is it due to a lack of a rationalized control loop maintenance program, poor management systems, shortage of qualified technical resources, or a lack of champions to sell control system benefits to management? What organizational strategies and management practices exist to address these gaps?

This panel discussion brings together four experts to share insights and best practices from their many years of practical experience in managing control engineering at the site-level.

Moderator: Bill Tubbs

Registration Link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAsdu6orzwtH9G11_MLOzBilqoezBdxWMw

¹ MPC = Model predictive control, RTO = Real-time optimization.