

RELIABILITY

Improving the health of the power supply network

UCB Farchim – Bulle, Switzerland

How EcoStruxure™ Power increases the reliability of power supply
and the continuity of biopharmaceutical processes

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Life Is On

Schneider
Electric



Finding a formula for health

UCB Farchim, part of Belgian biopharmaceutical firm UCB, is a biopharmaceutical manufacturer located in Bulle (Fribourg), Switzerland. They deliver medicines and therapeutic solutions that improve the lives of patients suffering from neurological disorders, such as epilepsy, and autoimmune diseases, such as rheumatoid arthritis or Crohn's disease.

At such a facility, high quality and reliability of power supply are critical. A single power failure, even of short duration, could alter the manufacturing processes. To help secure their operations, UCB Farchim decided to upgrade and digitize their power supply network at both medium and low voltage levels.

Reaching out to a trusted partner

Having successfully worked with Schneider Electric on previous projects, UCB Farchim asked them to come up with a relevant solution. The Schneider team proposed a range of powerful solutions from connected products and edge control, based on the EcoStruxure Power digital platform.

"The approach proposed by Schneider Electric had the advantage of consolidating all information from our electrical network in a single management tool," said Roland Francey, Head of Power Supply Installations at UCB Farchim. "Such insights would allow us to monitor electricity consumption in real time and optimize energy quality and continuity of service," he added.

Another benefit of EcoStruxure Power was the ease of integration with UCB Farchim's existing equipment and systems. Schneider also offered to coordinate the work of other companies involved in the project, including the concrete substation supplier, the switchboard operator, and the system integrator.

Goal

Digitize the power supply network at a pharmaceutical factory, on both medium and low voltage levels, to increase electrical installation reliability.

Story

UCB Farchim needs first-class quality and reliability of power supply to ensure the continuity and stability of biopharmaceutical processes.

Solution

Schneider Electric's EcoStruxure Power solutions, including connected products and an energy management system – EcoStruxure Power Monitoring Expert.

Results

- Electrical installation maintenance and operation costs and time reduced by 30–35%
- Real-time insights into the electrical network allow the company to monitor and control the installation remotely
- Early detection of abnormal conditions helps avoid production downtime and significant financial losses

Turning data into insights

Due to the criticality of multiple processes, the upgrade of the power supply network had to be carefully planned and performed to a tight timeline. The existing Schneider equipment was upgraded with wireless sensors directly on site, while the new devices were delivered ready for connectivity.

Thanks to the upgrade, all data from the electrical installation is now gathered in a single energy management tool: EcoStruxure Power Monitoring Expert. It aggregates information from both medium and low voltage levels and delivers timely insights into the network's condition.

Sensors placed in key areas of the installation monitor temperature and humidity to detect potential abnormal operating conditions. If an anomaly is detected, UCB Farchim's crew is alerted instantly. They can quickly identify and analyze the issue on site or remotely and act quickly to ensure a continuous supply of electricity.

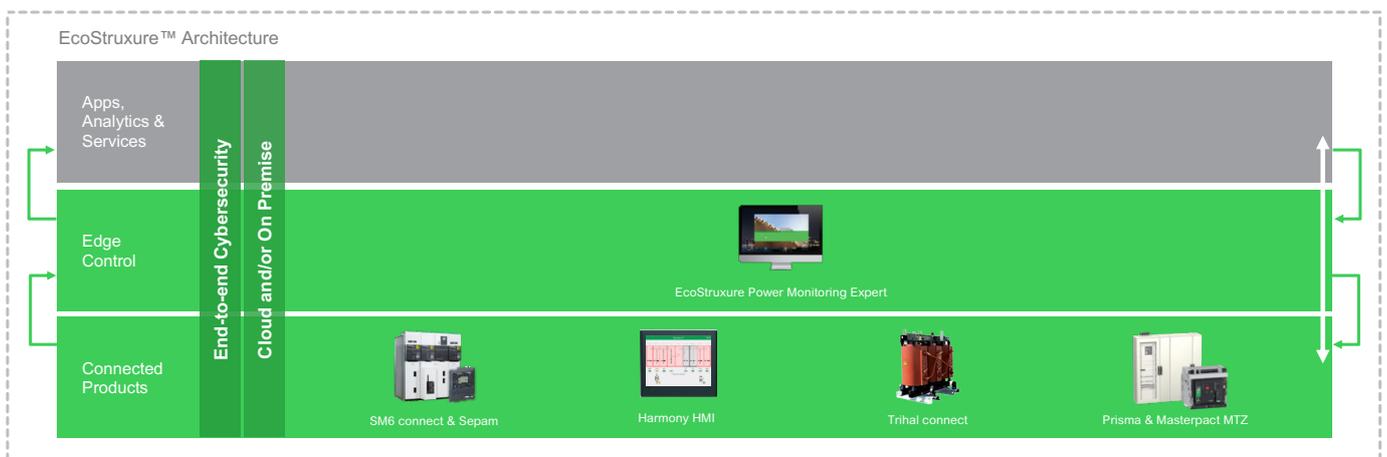
Seeing the full picture

"We have completely digitized our power supply with EcoStruxure Power from Schneider Electric," explained Roland Francey. "This allows us to save 30–35% on maintenance and operation time and costs and helps us avoid power outages."

Through timely insights into their electrical installation, EcoStruxure Power allows UCB Farchim to take appropriate measures to avoid production halts that could lead to significant financial losses.

30–35%

savings on electrical maintenance and operation time and costs



EcoStruxure™

Innovation At Every Level

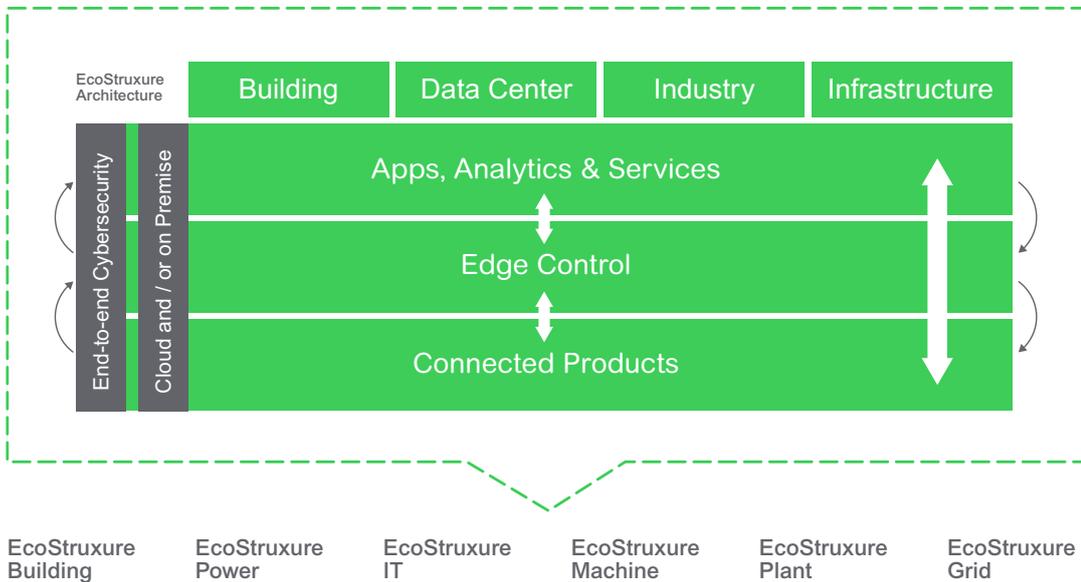
IoT-enabled solutions that drive operational and energy efficiency

EcoStruxure is Schneider Electric's open, interoperable, IoT-enabled system architecture and platform.

EcoStruxure delivers enhanced value around safety, reliability, efficiency, sustainability, and connectivity for our customers.

EcoStruxure leverages advancements in IoT, mobility, sensing, cloud, analytics, and cybersecurity to deliver Innovation at Every Level including Connected Products, Edge Control, and Apps, Analytics & Services. EcoStruxure has been deployed in 480,000+ sites, with the support of 20,000+ system integrators and developers, connecting over 1.6 million assets under management through 40+ digital services.

One EcoStruxure architecture, serving 4 End Markets with 6 Domains of Expertise



Connected Products

The Internet of Things starts with the best things. Our IoT-enabled best-in-class connected products include breakers, drives, UPSs, relays, sensors, and more. Devices with embedded intelligence drive better decision-making throughout operations.

Edge Control

Mission-critical scenarios can be unpredictable, so control of devices at the edge of the IoT network is a must. This essential capability provides real-time solutions that enable local control at the edge, protecting safety and uptime.

Apps, Analytics & Services

Interoperability is imperative to supporting the diverse hardware and systems in building, data center, industry, and grid environments. EcoStruxure enables a breadth of agnostic Applications, Analytics, & Services for seamless enterprise integration.

Find out more about EcoStruxure

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