# Press Release

## Schneider Electric Improves Time to Production, Reduces Device Commissioning Time with EcoStruxure Field Device Expert

- Reduces HART device commissioning time by 75 percent
- Simplifies commissioning process to keep automation projects on time and on budget
- Drives efficiency, safety with shorter start-ups and restarts; increases operational profitability

**FOXBORO, Mass. – Aug. 8, 2018 –** Schneider Electric, the leader in the digital transformation of energy management and automation, today released EcoStruxure™ Field Device Expert, an application that improves how engineers commission, configure and maintain field devices throughout the lifecycle of the plant. Field Device Expert's Intelligent Commissioning Wizard completely automates detection, configuration, commissioning and testing of HART field instrumentation connected to an EcoStruxure Foxboro distributed control system (DCS). Automatic binding and configuration of HART devices has been shown to reduce commissioning schedules by more than 75 percent, leading to faster time to profit.

 "A report by EY[1] reveals that almost two thirds of multibillion-dollar megaprojects continue to exceed budgets, with 73 percent missing project schedule deadlines," said Hany Fouda, vice president, Process Automation Offer Management and Global Sales, Schneider Electric. "By automating the commissioning process, Field Device Expert significantly improves time to production and reduces effort, which has an immediate impact on project profitability. In one example, the return on investment calculations showed a savings of 96 days, which was the equivalent of $24 million of additional production for that project."

Traditional, manual device commissioning methodology is manpower intensive, making it error prone, time consuming and expertise dependent. By automating the configuration and commissioning process, Field Device Expert drastically changes automation project execution by minimizing hardware dependencies and custom engineering and offers more flexibility in the design, timing and sequence of activities. For example, with traditional commissioning methods, it can take up to 50 minutes to configure each asset. Field Device Expert's Intelligent Commissioning Wizard shortens that time to 15 minutes, which is a 70 percent reduction. Once the plant is operating, Field Device Expert continues to ease field device configuration and condition monitoring throughout the plant lifecycle which means

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[1] https://www.ey.com/Publication/vwLUAssets/EY-spotlight-on-oil-and-gas-megaprojects/$FILE/EY-spotlight-on-oil-and-gas-megaprojects.pdf

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restarts—like those that occur after a maintenance turnaround or any shutdown—are also faster and easier.

As part of Schneider Electric's EcoStruxure architecture and platform, Field Device Expert improves efficiency, safety, productivity and profitability. EcoStruxure is Schneider Electric's open, interoperable, IoT-enabled system architecture and platform and delivers enhanced value around safety, reliability, efficiency, sustainability and connectivity.

Now fully integrated into the Foxboro DCS, Field Device Expert's new capabilities include:

- **Data available in Field Device Expert** can be utilized by [EcoStruxure Maintenance Advisor](), a predictive maintenance and decision-support platform that reduces configuration time and human error.
- **Intelligent Commissioning Wizard** enables faster time to production and reduced commissioning effort and time. With Intelligent Commissioning Wizard, engineers can commission devices 24/7 with no additional overtime cost.
- **Device Replacement Wizard** significantly reduces time and expertise by automating HART device replacement, either individually or in bulk. Even when a device is replaced with a non-alike device, the software automatically executes the replacement, significantly reducing downtime in such cases.
- **Single Information Repository** increases safety and security by eliminating costly errors. The valuable information created during each phase of device management is saved in a single database so it can be used throughout the lifetime of the devices. This unified database eliminates duplication and mismatch issues commonly experienced with independent DCS and asset databases. This also saves additional effort by providing a single, unified backup.
- **Access Permissions** for safety-related devices align with IEC61511-1, the prevailing industry standard that establishes best practices in the engineering of systems to ensure the safety of an industrial process using instrumentation.
- **Bundled HART device description library** enables faster device deployment, eradicates version mismatch, and eliminates cybersecurity risks previously created by moving documents from the HART consortium web page into the system. It also prevents users from browsing and downloading files from the Internet since engineers no longer need to search for them.
- **FDT 2.0 compliant frame** leverages the latest technologies (.NET over ActiveX/COM) and supports digital signatures to prevent tampering.
- **Interoperability** with any device, from any vendor, with any protocol. With Foxboro DCS interoperability and any-bus capabilities, users can maintain preferences because the system adapts to user choice.
- **Advanced Diagnostic Support** for vendor-embedded device type managers (DTM) enables maintenance technical personnel to access advanced diagnostics written specifically for the concerned device by its vendor. Field Device Tool (FDT)/device type manager enables flexible user interface, rich graphics and comprehensive diagnostics for field devices, even complex devices such as positioners.

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"We are committed to helping our customers reap additional value from their assets and process automation investments," said Fouda. "Our goal is to help customers progress to a safe, secure digital operation in which they can gain control of all their critical business variables—safety, security, efficiency, reliability and, most importantly, profitability. Field Device Expert and Intelligent Commissioning Wizard are perfect examples of how we continue to help our customers convert their process automation systems and solutions into the profit engines of their businesses."

### About Schneider Electric

Schneider Electric is leading the Digital Transformation of Energy Management and Automation in Homes, Buildings, Data Centers, Infrastructure and Industries. With global presence in over 100 countries, Schneider is the undisputable leader in Power Management – Medium Voltage, Low Voltage and Secure Power, and in Automation Systems. We provide integrated efficiency solutions, combining energy, automation and software. In our global Ecosystem, we collaborate with the largest Partner, Integrator and Developer Community on our Open Platform to deliver real-time control and operational efficiency. We believe that great people and partners make Schneider a great company and that our commitment to Innovation, Diversity and Sustainability ensures that Life Is On everywhere, for everyone and at every moment.

www.schneider-electric.us

### About Schneider Electric EcoStruxure

EcoStruxure is our 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. The includes Connect 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.

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**Hashtags:** #IndustrialAutomation #EcoStruxure #Plant #digitization #IIoT #SchneiderElectric

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