

# How can you better something that is already great?

## Challenge:

Hosokawa Micron Ltd (HML) is a global leader in powder processing equipment used in the pharmaceutical, chemical, mineral, and food industries.

While it enjoys a competitive advantage in the marketplace, HML was inspired by a vision to go a step further and stay ahead of the game.

It was challenging for a company that has a 100-year legacy to find solutions in manufacturing that were new and digitally smart with a great 'value add' for its customers.

HML didn't have to look far for a partner to help them achieve their goal. It's relationship with Siemens is over two decades old and it uses control and measurement technology for many of its processes.

## Solution:

At HML, the machine and processes are controlled through Siemens' programmable logic controllers (PLCs) and, in some cases, using supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) or Distributed Control System (DCS).

To enhance its processes an in-house intelligence solution was being used to extract and analyse the data, and improve performance.

HML realised that to stay competitive and make deeper inroads into industrial digitalisation, it was important to keep up with big data and analytics demands.

The solution was Siemens' cloud-based internet of things (IoT) open operating system, MindSphere, which connects the entire environment of products, plants, systems, and machines, enabling the harnessing of a wealth of data with advanced analytics.

In addition, it gives access to a growing number of apps and a dynamic development ecosystem, and works with all popular web browsers.

Siemens expertise in process engineering, process data, and its best-in-class industrial cyber security, made HML's search for a partner very simple.

Siemens has adopted the highest cyber security standards for its products and services such as the international IEC 62443 standard while also adopting other relevant standards that are used throughout its global business to demonstrate a consistent approach to security such as the ISO 2700\* series of standards. It is also committed to greater cyber security having initiated the Charter of Trust in 2018 which has 17 members including Airbus, Atos, Cisco, Dell Technologies and IBM.

Ian Elsby, Head of Chemicals UK & Ireland, Siemens Digital Industries, said: "Our partnership with Hosokawa has always produced tremendous results and this is purely because we share best practice and learn from each other. We are

constantly looking for new solutions to create a better and digitally superior product for their customers.

"Industry 4.0 is constantly evolving, and so is our alliance. We are able to bring to the table the challenges from the varied verticals we work in and share the outcomes of positioning in other industries, helping Hosokawa harness that knowledge to boost their digitalisation process."

Data analysis is ubiquitous in any setting. Using Siemens' MindSphere, clients get access to maximum data extraction and powerful data analysis and visualization, giving manufacturers new insights into making changes with real productivity impact.

HML set the following key performance indicators to maximise data analysis: quality, energy usage, environmental conditions (internal and external), process parameters and the factors affecting them.

## Outcome:

How has the deployment benefited HML and its customers? Simply put, it has brought about 15 per cent improvement in uptime; energy usage has been reduced by more than 10 per cent and capacity gains of between 10 to 12 per cent have been recorded for its customers.

Since the start of HML's journey of advanced digitalisation in its factory in the last three to four years, HML has grown its output significantly year-on-year, not only digitalising its own production factory but the machines it delivers to customers are of higher digital value, primed for better productivity.

With the integration of its assets across the factory in Runcorn, HML was able to upgrade its existing in-house app 'Hosokawa ReMs' to remotely monitor the performance of Hosokawa equipment and plant, including real time values and trending for key measurements, diagnostic alerts and warnings of problems detected in machinery. App users have varied options on how they want to use it, including a servitisation model from HML on providing solutions for any data anomalies that may show in the analysis.

## For further information, please contact:

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