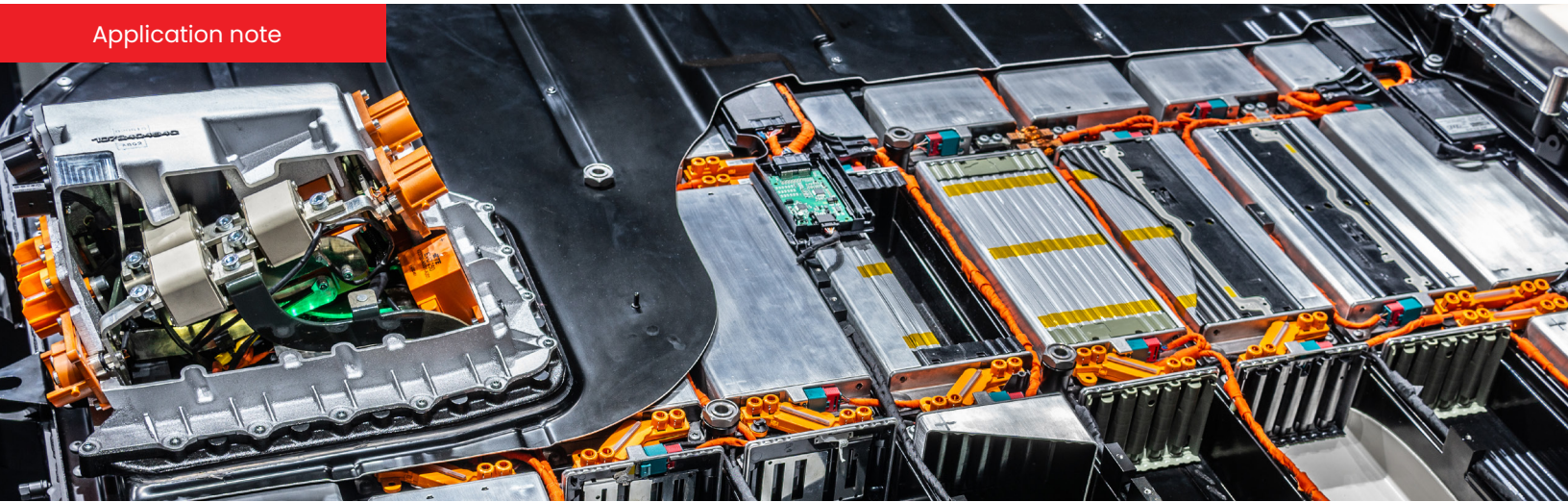


Application note

Panametrics technology helps major European battery supplier optimize its operations

Company background

A major battery supplier in Poland operates a large-scale automotive lithium battery production plant. Launched in 2016 the factory was the first of its kind in Europe and employs more than 10,000 people.

The facility is a key partner across the electric vehicle market and currently supplies 13 of the top 20 major electric car brands.

The economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic did not halt the growth and export of lithium-ion batteries. The capacity planned for 2021 is 100GWh (about 1.7 million electric vehicles) versus 65GWh in 2020.

Challenge

The factory enjoys a good relationship with Panametrics' Channel Partner having provided liquid chiller measurement solutions in the past. So, when the customer required help for a water measurement application, they called the Channel Partner.

Traditionally, the customer's water capacities were calculated based on pump curves. There were no meters installed other than differential pressure devices. The Channel Partner initially suggested wetted meters but there was a strong push back not to cut the existing pipework and interrupt processes.

Benefits:

- Strong local support by channel partner
- Strong reputation in clamp-on measurement
- Reliability built from previous projects
- Ability to cover all applications



Solution

After a number of successful demonstrations Panametrics supplied six AT600 clamp-on ultrasonic flow meters.



The AT600 sensors are clamped on piping just below the ceiling at a height of 15m. With both feet firmly on the ground, the Channel Partner worked closely with facilities personnel to familiarize them with the equipment. The customer now enjoys accurate and reliable water flow measurement helping it optimize operations.

Given the success of the AT600 technology, Panametrics' Channel Partner was then asked to look at the pneumatic air and nitrogen supplies (in some of the chemical areas) that at the time had not been equipped with flow meters.

Given the rapid growth of the plant the mass balance became increasingly important. This time Panametrics supplied seven GC868 flow meters proving accurate and reliable measurement for the line pressures of 7.5-8 barg.

For the customer's low pressure and high velocity lines, Panametrics supplied CTF878 flow meters.

Again, the Channel Partner helped the plant's employees familiarize themselves with the technology enabling them to record, operate and calibrate in-house.



With another successful measurement point in place, the customer turned its attention to steam. Panametrics subsequently supplied 10 PanaFlow Vortex flow meters. Selected for its reliability and accuracy, the customer also recognized that the vortex flow meter is easy to install and has very low maintenance costs.

With the continuous growth of the plant the need for additional measurements continues to increase. Panametrics and its Channel Partner is now engaging with the customer's suppliers to integrate Panametrics technology in their sub-supplies to the main facility.

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