



## Case Study: AOC Accesses Field Data and Improves Business Performance

AOC's challenge was to use their data more effectively in order to free up personnel and ensure consistency in production planning, scheduling, inventory management, and improving their overall business performance.

### USE DATA MORE EFFECTIVELY

Already known for producing resins of exacting consistency with their proprietary manufacturing program, AOC sought to achieve even higher levels of consistency, efficiency, and production control in their process throughout all of their five locations.

Before optimizing their process, AOC had production recipes existing in multiple locations with different values. This presented serious consistency issues. Operational data was entered separately into AOC's business systems.

Danny Cox, AOC's Corporate Process Control Supervisor indicated, "We needed a solution to link our Provox and DeltaV systems to our Oracle based business system. We needed a simple, consistent method of accessing field data from plant floor devices that was able to communicate with multiple systems."

Overcoming these deficits would help AOC meet their primary production needs and optimize their manufacturing program.

### OPC: FLEXIBLE STANDARDS-BASED FOUNDATION FOR OPTIMIZATION

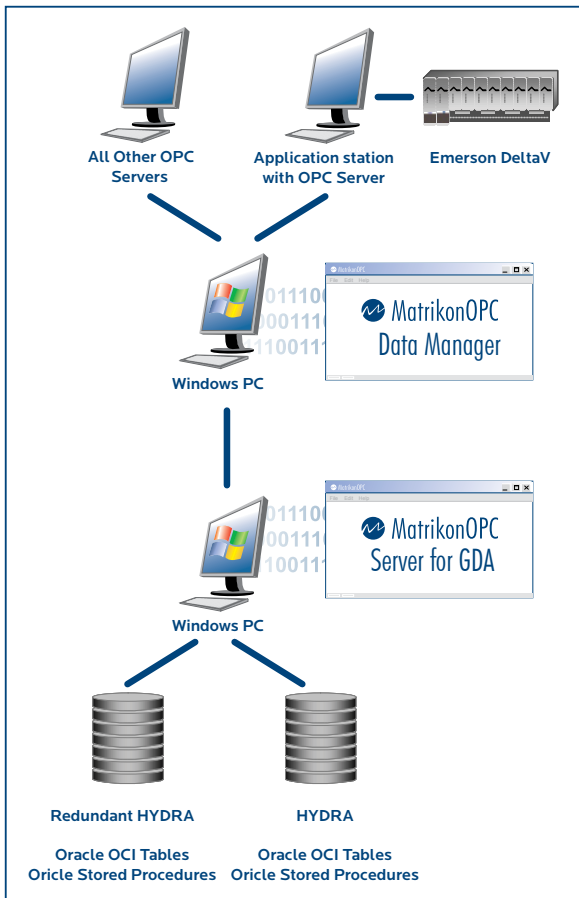
AOC had two options. One option was to keep their existing infrastructure and develop the custom applications they needed. The other was to find a flexible, more cost efficient solution.

AOC decided to build their architecture based on OPC standards-based industrial connectivity technology. After doing product evaluations, they concluded on MatrikonOPC's solution, because MatrikonOPC was able to change and develop the product as needed to link their systems to Oracle. They found custom programming via .NET was not as flexible as OPC and much more expensive.

AOC used the MatrikonOPC Server for General Database Access (GDA) and MatrikonOPC Data Manager to read and write data, to and from their Emerson DeltaV system.



*Philip Hale, Corporate Process Control Engineer, Danny Cox, Corporate Process Control Supervisor control systems*



MatrikonOPC Data Manager (ODM) is a software application that transfers data from one OPC server to another. With this standard, off-the-shelf software and MatrikonOPC Server for GDA, connectivity was easily accomplished. 800 points were connected and updated every second. AOC could now read and store production data and convert Oracle procedure variables to OPC tags.

### VALUE FROM MATRIKONOPC

"MatrikonOPC supplied a manageable method to integrate our Oracle business system with our process control systems. It was the most cost effective approach to a complex issue. The total cost of this solution will be a fraction of what the cost of a custom solution would be." said Cox.

Cox went on to say, "Our manufacturing process now gets recipe data directly from Oracle and that has given us the ability to use a single entry point for recipes." This significantly raises the level of production consistency while eliminating the potential of data errors.

"The Oracle system also uses the data to build reports on our manufacturing process." Trending and analysis reporting facilitates timely and accurate decision making improving AOC's overall business performance.

"An added benefit is that we have also been able to integrate with small PLC systems that would have required a complex serial solution. Currently we have integrated with DeltaV, Provox, RSlincs and Oracle."

*AOC architecture uses MatrikonOPC Server for General Database Access (GDA) and MatrikonOPC Data Manager to integrate Oracle business system with process control systems*

### FUTURE PLANS

MatrikonOPC's solution met AOC's criteria for being modular and transportable to all five of their locations. AOC has two of five plants running and work on the third plant has begun.

### ABOUT AOC

Headquartered in Collierville, Tennessee, AOC is a leading global supplier of resins, gel coats, colorants and additives for composites and cast polymers. Backed by the industry's best technical support, AOC products are manufactured in facilities strategically located in United States, Canada, Mexico, Europe and Asia. AOC-owned facilities are certified as meeting ISO 9001:2000 standards for quality control.

### ABOUT MATRIKONOPC

MatrikonOPC is the world's largest OPC company. MatrikonOPC is a charter member of the OPC Foundation. With a collection of more than 500 OPC products and interfaces and over 100,000 installations worldwide, MatrikonOPC is the world's largest developer, trainer and distributor of OPC products. For free downloads or more information visit [www.matrikonopc.com](http://www.matrikonopc.com).