Venezuela's PDVSA calls on DeltaV for robust, flexible control

The complex production process for PDVSA's 56-well oil field is extraordinarily dynamic and constantly expanding. PDVSA called on Emerson Process Management's DeltaV process system for the robust automation, high-level flexibility and scalability it needed. While quality was a factor, administration and maintenance had to be held to a minimum in order to reduce costs.

Continued success

The DeltaV system, with Fisher-Rosemount's PlantWeb architecture and FOUNDATION™ fieldbus technology provides control for liquid gas separation, an air-blown gas cooler, and mist eliminator vessel. Four fieldbus segments connect a DeltaV automation system with Rosemount intelligent level, pressure, and temperature transmitters. What initially had been planned as a small trial installation was so successful that PDVSA began expanding it almost immediately.

Bottom Line Benefits

Among the many benefits PDVSA gained from DeltaV and FOUNDATION Fieldbus were:

- Scalability to match a constantly expanding process
- Shorter installation (15 days compared to five or six months or even longer for traditional solutions)
- Faster configuration (almost 20 instruments in only 3 days)
- Better process stability, resulting in less waste and improved regulatory compliance

Says PDVSA's project engineer Manuel Rangel, "Having an integrated operating environment with robust control like the one offered by fieldbus, integrated with PlantWeb, allows you to obtain a stable operation, minimizing deviations in the processes, and therefore minimizing the venting of contaminants into the environment."