

Title: **Intelligent Motor Control Centers Smart (IMCCs) – The Present and the Future A New Concept in Integrated, Intelligent Motor Control Center Technology**

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Areas of Interest

Application of fully integrated, low-voltage motor control equipment, open device-level control networks, and software monitoring package to make preventive maintenance possible in the manufacturing process.

Abstract

Device-level integration through digital communication holds the key to unlocking the full potential in the electronic controls being installed in industrial plants today. Users in all industries are seeking solutions that integrate software, hardware and communication technologies to deliver plant-floor benefits such as improved process control and diagnostics and increased reliability. The packaging and development and packaging of new technologies in device-level communication and sensing capabilities, along with dedicated software, enable provide for intelligent control architectures to hat control and provide both abundant real-time process information about for the process, as well as predictive maintenance information to further improve productivity. and can also predict maintenance needs to improve programs that maintain productivity.

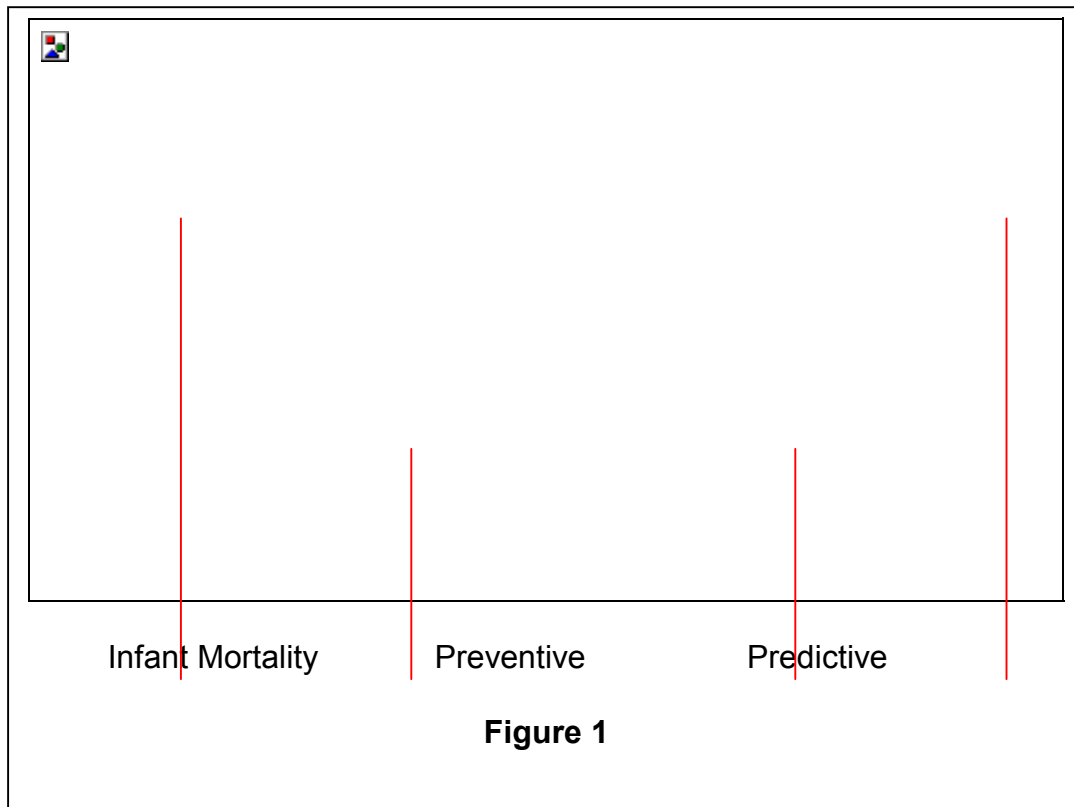
Background

Historically, Motor Control Centers (MCCs) used in the process industry have incorporated used, there was first hard-wire interwiring for control and monitoring of ON/OFF status, and the MCCs s, of controllers and sometimes included transducers for process monitoring feedback of process monitoring. Advances included intelligent power components have led to PLC controllers with additional feedback monitors. Consequently, there was a trend in recent years to include automation products such as AC drives, soft starters, electronic overload relays, and digital power monitors within traditional MCC motor control centers. Th Integrating these intelligent devices is hass given rise birth to a new breed of MCC, often called the Intelligent Motor Control Center (IMCC). While called intelligent, these MCCs However, still what was lack eding has been was an integrated intelligent integration of the controllers, field sensors, and the software linking the whole process together. In addition, there has been was a need for additional integrated software to analyze and provide a monitoring system for predicting maintenance needs and driving other necessary strategiesy to improve the system reliabilityy of the system.

## Increasing Process Uptime with Predictive Maintenance Solutions

The goal in any continuous the process is to keep it running efficiently and productively. This which requires monitoring the operation as well as including the proper maintenance. Accordingly, operations personnel mustshould migrate from a preventive maintenance culture to a predictive maintenance culture. Fundamental toThe basis for a predictive maintenance program is integratingthat sensors can be put in place to provide critical actuator or motor health data regarding the actuator or motor health. -This level of communication can provide operators with a continuous stream of performance data or change of state data, reflecting due to any degradation of the sensor or attached system and that will alerting operators of the pending need for maintenance. An effective predictive maintenance will leverage this data so that electronic sensors and controls can be left in place longer compared tothan under a preventive maintenance structure regime.

The potential savings with predictive maintenance solutions are twofold. First, -The first is that the device can be left in place beyond the calculated statistical replacement scheduled under a preventive maintenance program. Secondly, since devices are replaced less frequently, the failure experience due to infant infant mortality and misconnection is are reduced. This is shown graphically in Ffigure 1.



**Figure 1**

This paper focuses on the three major components that are integrated in an IMCC, and specifically on device-level communication within an IMCC and discusses the potential to use of the information into an effective predictive maintenance program.

The three major components of an IMCC are:

include

A truly integrated IMCC involves ~~comprises~~ of five major components:

The MCC structure with built-in communication media, ~~a~~

Intelligent motor control components ~~and~~ s

IMCC monitoring software and documentation,

Communication networks

IMCC monitoring software

IMCC systems software and electronic documentation

The goal of the integration of integrating these components ~~When these elements are integrated as a system,~~ is to make the IMCC easy to install and maintain without specific training or local expertise. ~~affords~~ When put together assembled as a system, the IMCC would provide afford a “plug-and-&play” set-up and monitoring of via dynamically configured screens showing real-time data, as well as, trending, component history, wiring diagrams, user manuals, and spare parts information are ~~at the touch of a button.~~

This integrated An IMCC would minimize facility downtime by quickly providing answers to questions like:

- How is the process performing?
- What tripped, and why did it trip?
- Has this problem happened before? When? Why?
- What parts are needed to fix the problem?
- Is anything else about to trip? How soon?
- Is anything else about to trip? How soon?
- What tripped, and why did it trip?
- Has this problem happened before? When? Why?
- What parts are needed to fix the problem?
- Where’s the circuit diagram? The users’ manual?
- Do we have any spare units?

Given this potential for easy access to useful process information, the technology inside the IMCC has now become the most important driving purchasing criterion ~~criteria~~ when users for ~~select anion of the MCC vendor is becoming more important than the hardware design of the MCC.~~ That is, many user-MCC-user specifications now s are focusing on the solid-state overload relays and communication networks more than, for example, over previously highly requested criteria, such as the design of power bus bar connections.

## The Three Integrated Technologies of the IMCC

The effectiveness of an IMCC for predictive motor maintenance relies is predicated on three technologies, which allow afford integrated intelligence and simple operation, and allay concerns about device-level networking, configuration and maintenance:

I. \_\_\_\_\_ ÷

A transportable sSoftware mMonitoring and documentation package; that can be transported

II. Network-ready, solid-state motor controls and motor protectors; and

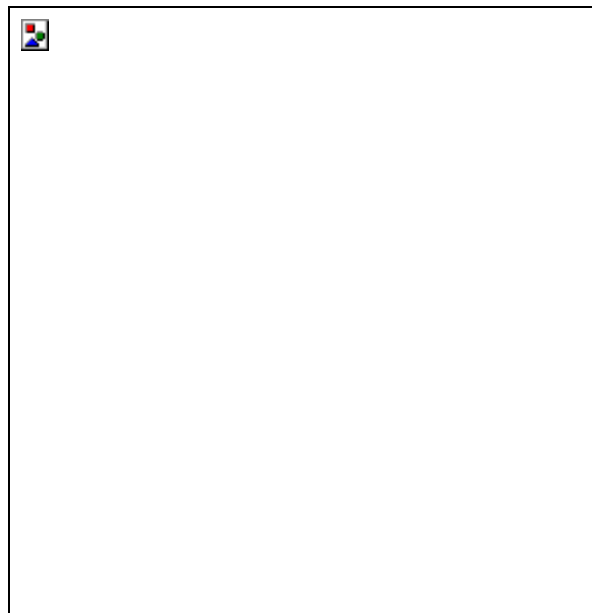
III. Integration of an open device-level network into the IMCC.

## I. Transportable Software Monitoring Package that can be transported

~~Via readily available operator interface software, Users today already have the potential to monitor data and establish predictive maintenance practices with readily available operator interface software. The reality, however, is that users seldom take the time to create customized screens for this purpose. Predictive information is still an untapped resource in most facilities. Some users do not see the cost justified by perceived benefits, other users are solely focused on maintaining and improving the basic process control and others are concerned that the data collection might negatively impact control speed. Whether because the cost doesn't justify the perceived benefit, because the focus is maintaining and improving the basic process control, or because of concerns about data collection impacting control speed, predictive information is an untapped resource in most facilities.~~

A solution to this dilemma the challenge of monitoring data is a transportable software monitoring package: — that is, a package with pre-configured screens that can be used in conjunction with any IMCC. This approach would allow users to easily view IMCC information without creating any customized screens. The IMCC monitoring software would present comprehensive system information in a pre-configured set of reports by merging information that intelligent devices would be polled by the software, their device type recognized (e.g.: i.e.: FVNR full-voltage non-reversing starter (FVNR), AC drive, Solid-state Motor Controller, etc.) and a pre-configured screen would display the most critical real-time parameters. are feeding through the communication network and The polling algorithm could segregate the monitoring and control, ensuring that monitoring scans do not affect control scans. By supplementing this information with a database containing a pre-loaded database within the software containing job-specific project information (AutoCAD documentation, spare parts lists, nameplate information, etc.), comprehensive system information for preventing and minimizing downtime would be at the users' fingertips.

For example, in the event of a problem, operators in the control room upon energizing the MCC, might want to see an overview of the IMCC; to determine see which unit is issuing a “warning” signal; and what the cause is the problem's cause. Such information could allow the user to correct a problem before unscheduled downtime occurs. This could be accomplished via a screen the monitoring software that mimics the would display an elevation view of mimicking the IMCC, complete with nameplates and “pilot lights” on each “door” to show status, including (On/Off, warning, tripped and; communication failure) in the control room. — As shown (see in Figure 1-).



## Figure 1

Alternatively, a presentation of monitored data could be accomplished by a “spreadsheet view,” allowing maximum information on a single screen, as well as filtering and sorting of data.

To probe further, users might want to

The software application coexists alongside operator interface and product-specific software (such as drive or power demand monitoring software) and automatically compiles key information about the MCC and all of its components.

Additional functionality of the Monitoring IMCC software:

Living MCC elevation view—This screen replicates the actual MCC line-up, complete with nameplates and “pilot lights” on each “door” to show status (on, off, warning, tripped, communication failure) so users can identify problems at a glance. [See photo for details.]

Graphical view of each unit—A screen is designed for each family of products (Soft Starters, Drives, Smart Motor Protector, etc.) so users can quickly see key data, such as amperes, time-to-trip, trip cause, ground fault amperes, and I/O status pertaining to a specific MCC unit. In this instance, care must be taken in the development of the user interface to provide useful information rather than an overload just mountains of data. For example, today’s AC drives typically can have more than over 300 parameters, but only a dozen are typically viewed during operation!

A solution to help users wade through the information overload would be to provide pre-configured screens showing the parameters typically of greatest interest, while allowing users to re-define the parameters to be displayed. Ideally, the user also should also be able to display critical parameters via trending graphs and large “analog” dials for greater emphasis. An example of such a screen is shown in Figure-2. Electronic Data Sheets (EDSs) – described in the next section – also could be available to the maintenance personnel over the network are the Electronic Data Sheets (EDSs will be described in the next section) of any connected devices, which could be used to establish which process variables to monitor on a continuous basis.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■



## Figure 2

~~Each screen is pre-configured to show the parameters typically of greatest interest, while allowing users to easily re-define the parameters to be displayed. Trending graphs and analog dials are featured on most screens. [See photo for details.]~~

~~In addition, operators will have the opportunity to track historical data for a specific motor. ~~s~~Tometimes this information can be a critical clue holds the whenkey to identifying the source of downtime. Historical tracking can answer the following questions:~~

- ~~• Is a trip occurring every Sunday at 5:00 p.m.?~~
- ~~• Has this problem happened before? How was it fixed? Who fixed it?~~
- ~~• Was anything changed recently? The trip setting? The contacts?~~

~~□ If a trip does occur, the software ~~could~~ also ~~could~~ serve as a comprehensive information system, minimizing downtime by providing information beyond real-time data. For example, to Spreadsheet view—Ideal for displaying maximum information on a single screen, the data can be filtered and sorted to meet unique user needs.~~

~~□ Spare parts lists—For help quickly identifying which replacement parts need to be ordered, the software could provide a list of electrical components contained inis provided for each unit. MCC documentation—Another common source of excessive downtime and frustration is lost documentation. The software could To eliminate time spent searching for documentation, users can view contain unit wiring diagrams, user manuals, and as-built AutoCAD documentation.~~

~~MCC history sometimes holds the key to identifying the source of downtime.~~

~~Is a trip occurring every Sunday at 5:00p.m.?~~

~~Has this problem happened before? How was it fixed? Who fixed it?~~

~~Was anything changed recently? The trip setting? The contacts?~~

~~These events could be tracked within the—The software, and offer great insight to the maintenance person, can track the history of each unit and structure (such as replacing contacts or changing the overload trip setting).~~

To further aid as ~~a~~facilitate commissioning and troubleshooting tool, the software ~~could~~ also ~~could~~ be capable of initiatingincludes limited control capabilities, allowing the software to take control away from the programmable logic controller (PLC)PLC. ~~A~~with a security barrier would be necessary to ~~to~~prevent unauthorized access to these control functions.

—The software polls the Device Network, searching for devices declare themselves to be located in MCCs. Concurrently, the unique Device Network identification number is obtained from each device, allowing the software to pair each device with information contained in the user's specific data file. This information includes nameplates, unit details, wiring diagrams, manuals, spare parts, and other details. The data from the device, together with the user specific data, is used to automatically generate the user interface screens.

With the trend toward locating MCCs in low-traffic areas, clearly the software must be viewable remotely, ~~i—ideally~~The MCC monitoring software can reside in a control room or, at an engineer's desk, ~~i—in addition to being viewable via a laptop plugged into the IMCC...~~ This means the software must be viewable over facility-wide networks such as Ethernet, ~~as well as on the supervisory control networks such as ControlNet, and/or at the -device--level networks such as DeviceNet-~~. This ability to bridge device--level data across all levels of a plant ~~is a key consideration when installing a new control system that device level data can be bridge across all level of a plant~~, or on a laptop used by maintenance personnel that is connected to the plant process control network. To minimize the network bandwidth consumed, data is gathered for "active" screens (those currently being viewed). Second, the polling algorithm segregates the monitoring and control, assuring that monitoring scans do not affect control scans.

Note that the software would ~~not~~ be intended to ~~augment supervisory graphic software and coexist on the same Windows NT to replace operator interface software along with~~ product-specific software, ~~(such as drive or power--demand monitoring software)~~, ~~as those packages are already optimized for fundamentally different tasks such as control and product configuration.~~

## II. Network-Ready, compact Solid-State Motor Controls and Motor Protectors

The information available to the IMCC software and to a predictive maintenance program is dependent upon the use of the ~~the~~ raw data produced by intelligent devices in the MCC and associated system.

The design of the supervisory and connected device networks must permit timely receipt of alarms produced by end devices and the interrogation of the selected device ~~E~~Electronic Data Sheet (EDS). The concept that sensors and actuators produce data ~~and~~ is the major shift from ~~our~~ past models that will fuel the predictive maintenance program. Figure 3 is an example of a device network “WHO” screen which graphically shows devices connected.

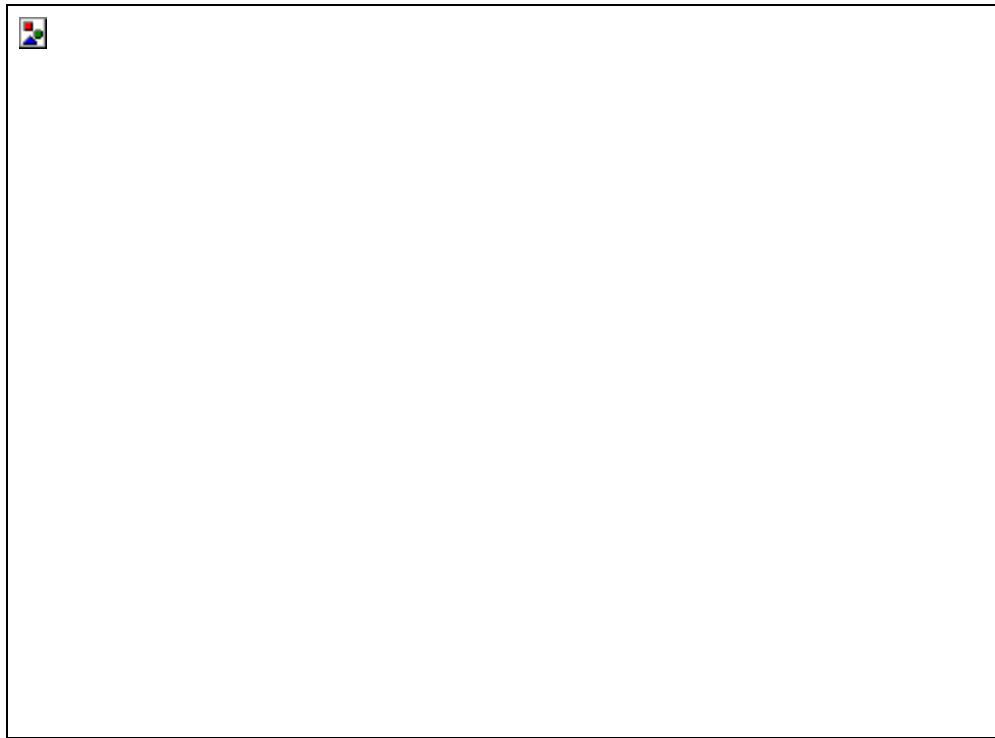


Figure 3

Beyond ~~the~~ graphically showing the health of the network, the “WHO” screen will permit ~~to easily~~ the user to easily navigate and select any connected device object. The ~~Electronic Data Sheet~~EDS of the selected object can ~~then be~~ displayed with current ~~operatoring~~operating parameters. ~~As mentioned in the previous section, this is meant to augment the capability of the IMCC monitoring software.~~ An example of a Smart Overload EDS is shown in Figure 4 other devices and their associated EDS are shown in Appendix A.



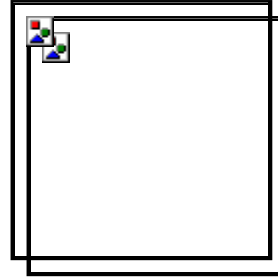


Figure 4  
Smart Overload EDS

~~Since t~~The most common device in the MCC is the motor starter, ~~so the~~ intelligence ~~withinef~~ the starter is paramount. Over the past few years, a number of solid--state technologies have been introduced into the motor starter. Early versions performed basic overload protection but added an adjustable trip and quicker phase-loss protection. These devices proved to be very popular because of their comparable cost to traditional overload relays. Later, overload relays added protection such as jam, stall, ground fault, and phase imbalance. More recently, overload relays began incorporating communication capability. These overload relays allowed the user to monitor current, percent thermal capacity utilized, and identify the reason for a trip. Still, these devices were not true network-driven products, as only a few parameters were adjustable, parameters couldn't be changed over the network, and communication required an external module. ~~Furthermore~~, the cost of this overload technology often limited its application to large or critical motors.

~~Overload relay~~Today tTechnology has evolved. ~~Today, to where~~ networked solid-state overload protection can be provided cost-effectively ~~be provided~~ on *all* loads throughout the plant, ~~and~~ not just on critical loads. With features such as built-in communication, built-in input points, programmable alarm and trip values, and patented ground--fault sensing technology, users now have unprecedented information and control capability to:

- Correct situations generating “warning” alarms before anything trips – such as a jammed conveyor or clogged filter;
- Identify how soon a motor will trip (in minutes and seconds), helping identify the urgency;
- Log events to determine patterns; ~~(Is the motor always tripping Sunday at 5:00 p.m.?)~~
- Identify the cause of the trip from the control room, giving maintenance personnel a starting point;

- Coordinate ground-fault protection, so an individual load trips rather than a whole MCC line-up;
- Pinpoint the source of grounding problems to individual circuits; and
- Monitor the current draw on each load to check for process problems;

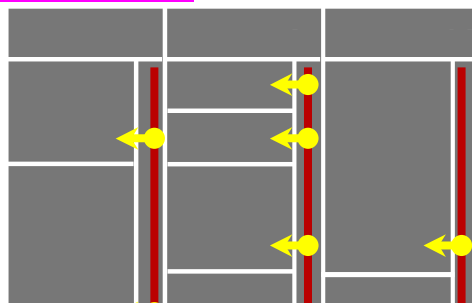
These overload relays may even include built-in input points as well. Why? Frequently, users need input points in units to monitor the status of the disconnect switch, contactor, or hand-off-auto switch. For these situations in the past, users ~~traditionally have~~ had to either wire to an input/output (I/O) chassis or add a small I/O module in each unit. Adding I/O to the overload relay – (and to communication modules associated with AC drives and solid-state controllers → Today's technology, such as the solid-state overload relays and communication modules address this issue by incorporating I/O points that can be relayed to the control network. This virtually eliminates hard-wiring to the I/O chassis further increasing the reliability of the system, allowing all control and monitoring to occur over the network.

### III. Integration of an Open Device-Level Network in the MCC Built-In DeviceNet Provides Users Many Benefits

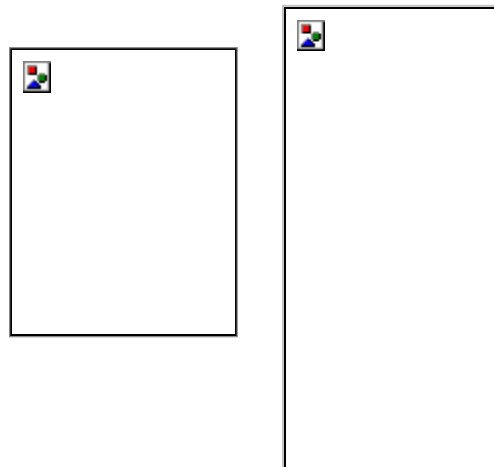
A significant number of users have now successfully implemented device-level networks in MCCs. The reasons for implementing this technology, in lieu of traditional hardwiring to an I/O chassis, included access to more information, simplified interwiring and simplified documentation, and ease of adding or moving units.

Various physical media approaches have been implemented, with the most common The traditional method of wiring a Device Network within an MCC consisted of routing a the trunk line in the horizontal wireway, and extending “daisy chain” drop lines in the vertical wireways. The DeviceNet cable has generally been round, and rated 4 amperes, 300 volts, NEC/CEC Class 2. Connectors between the trunk line and drop lines have either been terminal block style or quick-connect style. This media approach seemed While logical during initial implementation of device-level networks, but as networks in MCCs become mainstream, special tooling and improved designs can be justified to improve reliability, usability, and cost of each of these physical media elements. The new built-in DeviceNet concept improves on each of these aspects, while lowering installed cost.

To improve reliability of the cabling system, trunk and drop cables could be placed behind barriers, rather than remaining exposed in the MCC wireways. This would minimize the danger of accidental damage to the communication cable when large power cables are pulled through the wireways. (Figure 5) The trunk line and drop lines are routed behind barriers, rather than within the MCC wireways. This isolates the primary DeviceNet cables from mechanical damage which may have otherwise occurred when pulling power cables through the wireways.



To improve reliability and increase flexibility of the cabling system, the “daisy chain” architecture also could be enhanced. Shortcomings of the “daisy chain” architecture are twofold: the chain can accidentally be broken and equipment unintentionally shut down and, plus adding a device requires shutting down an adjacent unit. One solution is to provide Six Device Network ports at the rear of each vertical wireway. (Figure 6). This approach allows the trunk and drop lines to remain safely behind barriers, while simplifying installation, relocation, and adding of MCC units. Users would simply plug in the unit, and then plug in the communication DeviceNet cable.



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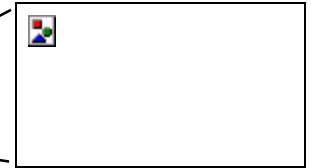
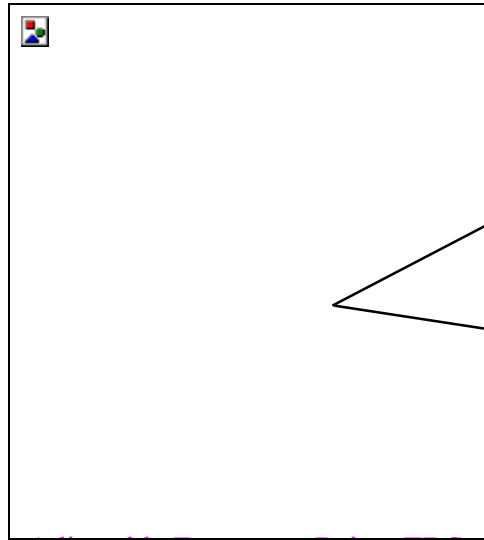
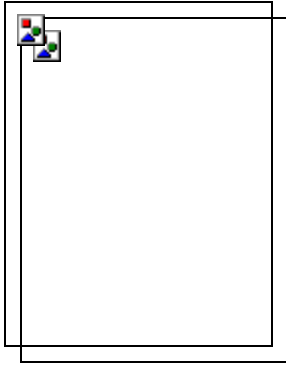
Figure 6

The design also eliminates shortcomings of the “daisy chain” architecture, namely the danger of the chain being accidentally broken and equipment unintentionally shut down, as well as the need to shut down an adjacent unit when adding a new unit to the chain. To simplify system design and lower cost, several new cables offer advantages over the traditional 4A round cable. Communication cables are now available. The increased rating of 8A are now available. When combined with a new 8A DeviceNet tested power supply unit, this eliminates the nuisance and cost of providing multiple power supplies in most MCC line-ups. Flat cables also are now available. This choice of flat cable enables use of insulation displacement connectors (connectors that clamp onto the cable, piercing through the insulation jacket), minimizing breaks and splices in the trunk and drop lines. The flat cable also slashes manufacturing time because a DeviceNet wire stripper allows the cable to be stripped in a single motion. Finally, cables with Class 1 insulation ratings are now available, eliminating the requirement for separation from power cables.

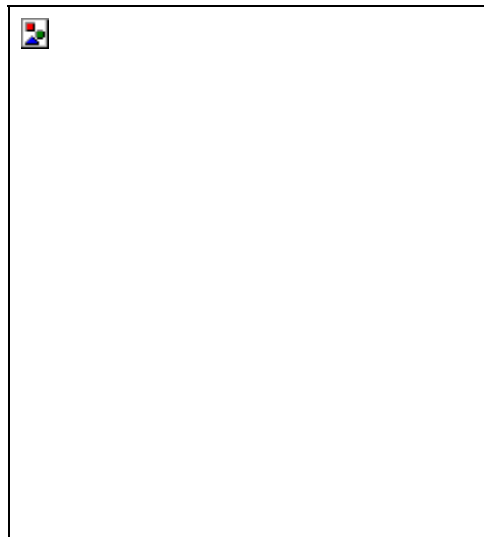
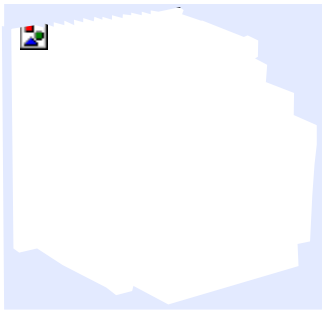
## Conclusion

The maturing and integration of the three maturing technologies discussed in this paper: software, control hardware, and communication - has given the IMCC the potential to offer significant benefits for large industry processes such as cement manufacturing. The optimization of cost and function of the IMCC components has yielded - Today's IMCC users should expect much more than just intelligent hardware stuffed inside their MCC. They should expect a plug-and-play solution that will offer savings during design, start-up and operation which will quickly exceed the higher acquisition cost of the smart components. - involving fully integrated hardware, software, and communication. - The end result is a motor control scheme that configures easily, The end result being a more reliable, lower cost design that starts up smoothly and provides highly useful information to predict maintenance, improve productivity, and maximize uptime.

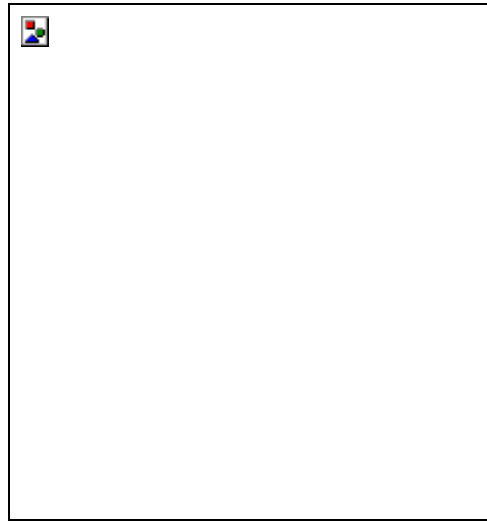
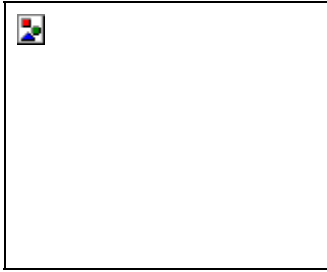
Appendix A



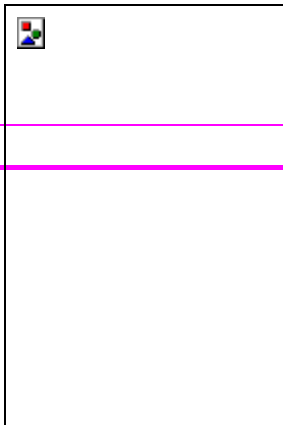
Adjustable Frequency Drive EDS



Soft Starter EDS



Smart Bearing EDS



**Device Network port**

**4 input points**

Ideal for monitoring contactor status,  
disconnect switch, overload trip and  
Hand-Off-Auto switch

**2 output points**

Direct control of motor starter coils up to  
NEMA size 5

DeviceNet Starter Auxiliary (DSA)

DeviceNet Starter Auxiliary