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Ten Reasons For Implementing Web-Based, Database-Driven Logbooks In The Power Industry

There are a host of compelling reasons for moving towards electronic logbooks in the power industry. These digital logbooks provide immediate benefits to operations personnel and other departments, such as maintenance and safety. An electronic logbook can grow into a powerful communications tool across multiple disciplines and sites.

Here are ten reasons for implementing web-based, database-driven logbooks in the power industry.

For more information on j5 Operations Management Solutions, please visit

www.hexagonppm.com

1. Increased Data Distribution

Using digital solutions like the j5 Operations Logbook, information is no longer confined to the control room; rather it is made available directly to anyone in the plant. Information is also available to departments other than the operations department. The introduction of an electronic logbook provides an immediate boost in plant personnel coordination. Multi-user entry allows more people to contribute to the information recording process, especially with mobile devices.

2. Formalized Shift Handover

Electronic applications like j5 Shift Handover provide an efficient, repeatable, auditable shift handover procedure for multiple areas and sites. The underlying logic ensures that users follow defined procedures. The connected digital logbook automatically collects the bulk of the information for the shift handover and reports may be emailed to an unlimited number of interested recipients. The data is always online and can be queried at any stage.

3. Real-time Information Integration

Digital logbooks can interface with industry standard platforms and applications such as the OSIsoft® PI System®, Aspen InfoPlus.21® (IP.21), SAP® PM, SAP HR and IBM Maximo. For example, software that calculates KPIs can automatically write an entry into an electronic logbook when a KPI reaches an unacceptable level. Also, the j5 Operations Logbook can write information back to external applications. This is particularly useful for tracking manual human data KPIs.

4. High Quality View of Information

The information within an electronic logbook is easy to read, highlights out-of-specification information, color codes it, formats it and so on. This means that users can quickly locate information of interest and understand it without

having to decipher inconsistent scrawls. For example, the information within the j5 Operations Logbook can be filtered using buttons and has an internal search engine.

5. Enforces Workflow Practices

The underlying logic within digital systems – such as the j5 Operations Logbook – defines users' rights to view, create and modify logs and to complete tasks. Examples include signing off at the end of the shift, creating and completing work instructions and many other daily processes. Electronic logbooks allow intelligent workflows which help operators to not make mistakes or cut corners. Complimentary applications like j5 Operator Rounds help to design operator rounds, collect field information and quickly identify anomalies.

6. Excellent Data Searching Capabilities

Functionality like single click filters, more sophisticated Boolean buttons and search engines allow users of digital applications like the j5 Operations Logbook to quickly find information. This saves an enormous amount of time compared to older data recording methods such as using paper or spreadsheets. Operators don't have to navigate through filing cabinets and complex folder systems to find the information they want.

7. Central Operations Management Platform

Digital systems like j5 Operations Management Solutions allow companies to implement an enterprise operations management platform. Complementary applications are connected and information is easily shared between teams. Important real-time and process data from Data Historians, CMMS, DCS, EAM, PLC and SCADA systems can also be integrated. This means that operators don't have to learn other user interfaces, and the owner does not need to buy software licenses from multiple vendors.

8. Complementary Applications

Digital logbooks are no longer detached logbooks, which they are in the traditional paper or spreadsheet form. They can be connected to similar applications in an integrated common structure. For example – in j5 Operations Management Solutions – the j5 Operations Logbook can connect to j5 Shift Handover, j5 Standing Orders, j5 Work Instructions, j5 Event Manager, j5 Operator Rounds, j5 Action Management, j5 Product Movements, j5 Incident Management, j5 Control of Work, j5 Management of Change and many more.

9. Advanced Reporting Tools

With electronic platforms, extensive data reports can be created very quickly. These reports are available online, can be emailed to selectable recipients – on a condition or at a defined periodicity – and can have selectable input values. For example, a report on all j5 Operations Logbook entries that have an "emergency" priority for "this week". The j5 Operations Logbook also provides the basis of an accurate management reporting framework with j5 Shift Handover reports, morning reports, weekly reports and many more.

10. Consolidates Multiple Logbooks and Sites

Typically, sites may have tens or hundreds of different logbooks. If these are paper, spreadsheet or word processor document-based, this can lead to enterprise chaos. By consolidating these into a singular application, users can view and manage the consequences of a hazardous event across the same system. For example, a single j5 Operations Management Solutions server provides multiple j5 applications for multiple personnel across multiple sites. j5 IndustraForm® Templates also allow for easy spreadsheet-like configuration and the simple addition of other complimentary applications.

About Hexagon

Hexagon is a global leader in sensor, software and autonomous solutions. We are putting data to work to boost efficiency, productivity, and quality across industrial, manufacturing, infrastructure, safety, and mobility applications.

Hexagon's PPM division empowers its clients to transform unstructured information into a smart digital asset to visualize, build and manage structures and facilities of all complexities, ensuring safe and efficient operation throughout the entire lifecycle.

Hexagon (Nasdaq Stockholm: HEXA B) has approximately 20,000 employees in 50 countries and net sales of approximately 3.9bn EUR. Learn more at hexagon.com and follow us @HexagonAB.