

Solutions Brief: Smarter Operations

Fastest Path to Unprecedented Operational Insight

Enabling customers to save millions of dollars in lost productivity is the cornerstone of Smart Connect’s solutions for Smarter Operations. The unprecedented levels of operational insight facilitated by the SmartConnect Gateway™ significantly improves productivity while avoiding unnecessary downtime through enhanced granular asset management and predictive maintenance. The SmartConnect Gateway™ delivers integration out of the box and brings the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) to factory floors and field equipment faster, more efficiently, and at lower total cost of ownership than proprietary systems requiring new equipment or custom software.

The SmartConnect Gateway™ supports an unlimited number of applications across market segments such as manufacturing, oil and gas, or transportation that require the capture and analysis of actionable data from the integration of equipment, sensors, cameras, and other hardware to any relevant analytics platform.

Simplified Approach

The Smart Connect approach to sensor data capture and integration dramatically eases implementation while reducing non-recurring engineering expenditure because it eliminates any need for translation between native PLC protocols. Integration projects have been completed using the SmartConnect Gateway solution 6x faster and at 9x less cost than conventional implementations.

The SmartConnect Gateway™ connects and aggregates any number of signals from sensors in existing equipment by tapping into terminals in the PLC, DCS, SCADA control panel or breakout box (Fig. 1). Imaging can also be added to the system to easily support remote, visual monitoring of equipment.

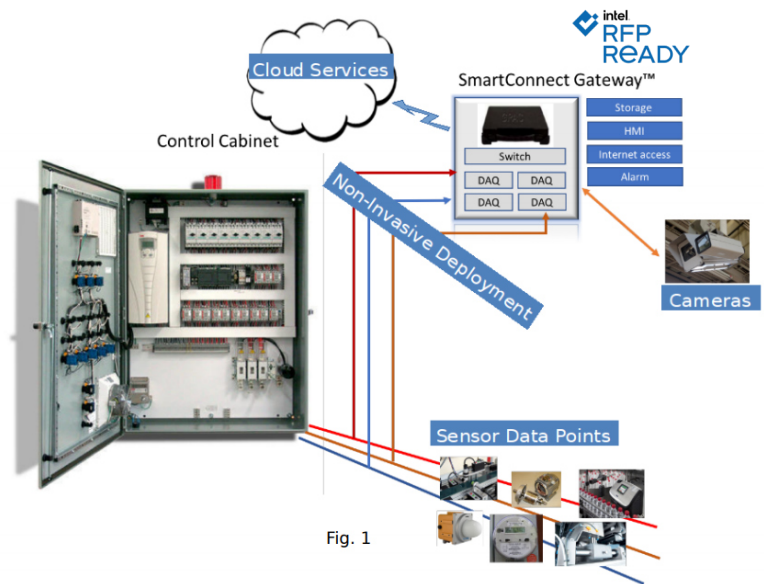


Fig. 1

Flexible and Scalable by Design

The SmartConnect Gateway™ provides Internet operability through a web-based HMI and REST API, both lending themselves to Smart Connect’s ability to deliver flexibility and scalability under almost any project scenario as system requirements change during planning and inevitably evolve post-initial deployment. The REST API enables the gateway to integrate with enterprise systems for analytics to be performed locally or in the cloud using AI services such as IBM’s Watson and asset management solution such as Maximo.

Easy Configuration

The browser-based HMI enables installers and users to easily configure and reconfigure the SmartConnect Gateway™ to capture asset condition and operational data. The SmartConnect Gateway™ is set up to identify and monitor telemetric operating parameter levels of equipment, and integrate the resulting data output with asset management systems that automatically trigger maintenance tickets. By supporting standard alarm monitoring, downtime in any production system can be significantly reduced by sending alerts of imminent failure to maintenance crews. The SmartConnect Gateway™ can dramatically accelerate decision making by reducing the need for field visits through remote access of equipment.

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Low Cost Of Ownership

The SmartConnect Gateway™ deploys as a SaaS or licensed based solution, offering plug-and-play interoperability out of the box for not only accelerating Industrial IoT projects, but also providing lowest cost of ownership. The system is an SE Linux OS based embedded server that runs on Intel X86 machines. Using secure, open standard software and off-the-shelf computing hardware significantly reduces capex as well as ongoing maintenance, and support.

Unlike a conventional automation approach requiring additional layers of computing and engineering resources for proprietary software design, Smart Connect's approach to sensor integration is significantly easier to implement and scale because of its use of open standard software and off the shelf hardware. (Fig. 2)

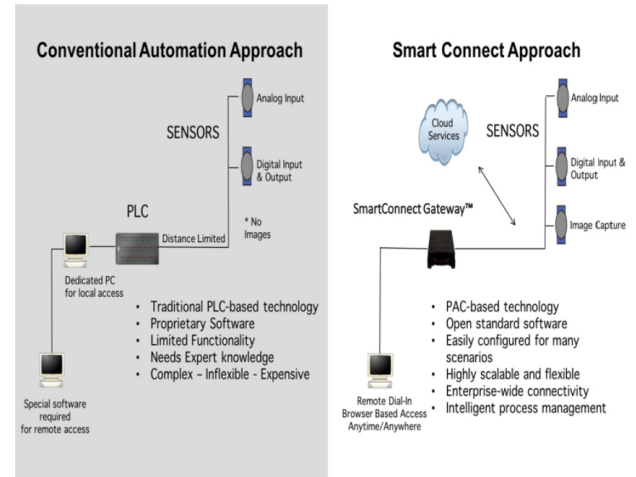


Fig. 2

Bridging Operations with IT

Simply put, Smart Connect's Smarter Operations solutions bridge operational technology (OT) and information technology (IT) to enable data to be captured at the edge of the network, integrated into the enterprise, and for analytics to be performed locally or in the cloud.

With Smart Connect, the possibilities for Intelligence at Work are limitless. Contact us today to learn more about bridging OT and IT for Smarter Operations in manufacturing, oil and gas, transportation, facilities management, utilities and smart city solutions, agro business, and many more.

About Smart Connect Gateway Software

Smart Connect delivers a no code software solution that captures, normalizes, aggregates and delivers disparate IoT device data to any analytic platform improving operational efficiency while significantly reducing cost.

Find out more:

SmartConnectInc.com