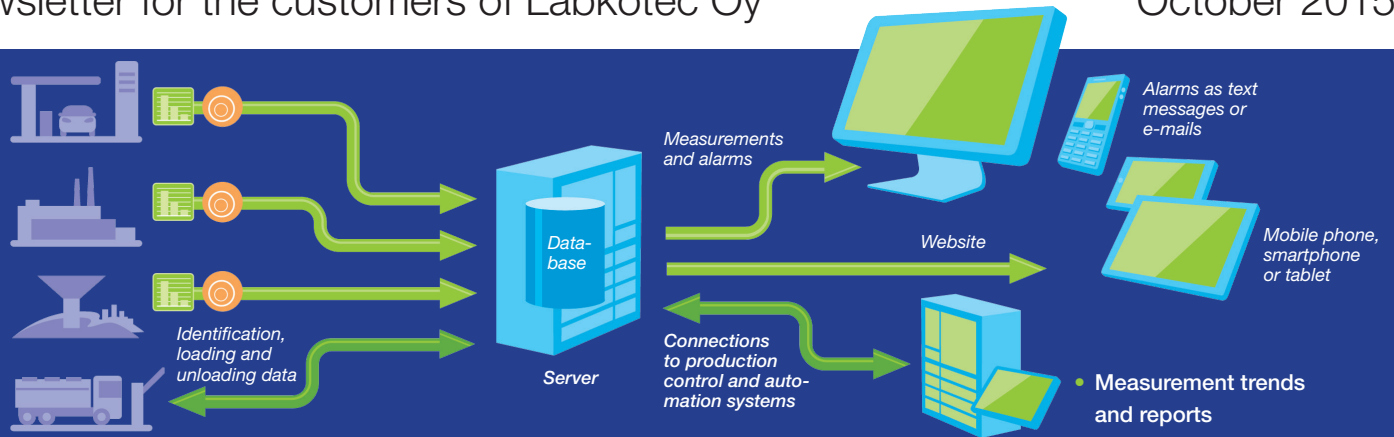


measure bulletin

Newsletter for the customers of Labkotec Oy

October 2015



LabkoNet®
Measurements and
alarms in real time

Fluid level remote monitoring streamlines logistics

When hazardous fluids are stored and handled, it is extremely important to know when the tanks are becoming full. The LabkoNet® real-time measuring system developed by Labkotec is designed to address this need.

Lassila & Tikanoja is one of the satisfied users of the system.

Hazardous waste is generated in most industrial operations, including those of the process and metal industry. Finland's largest metal industry cluster is located in the coastal region of northern Ostrobothnia, with the largest operators being Ruukki Metals in Raahe and Outokumpu in Tornio. In line with the current trend, these industrial facilities have outsourced their waste management. It is only natural that they have entrusted these duties to another large company, Lassila & Tikanoja plc.

"In northern Finland, we are essentially an industrial service company, for which reason our services in Tornio, Oulu and Raahe relate to the collection and handling of water and hazardous waste. Additionally, we have process cleaning units placed in this area," says **Tero Seppänen**, Product Manager from Lassila & Tikanoja. All in all, Lassila & Tikanoja has about 20 storage tanks in northern Finland.

Obtaining real-time stock level data about them has been possible since 2008 when the LabkoNet® system was first introduced. After that, trial use gradually evolved into the standard in all storage areas in northern Finland. LabkoNet® emerged on the market as early as 1998, being one of the first Internet-based remote control room applications in Finland.

"Using the system, the client will receive all the necessary data in real time – irrespective of place. The data makes it easy to decide what kinds of measures need to be taken at which time," says **Jukka Korhonen**, Business Unit Manager from Labkotec.

Anticipation made easier

Reliable meters are, of course, a necessary precondition for reliable remote measurements. Labkotec's level meters have been designed and manufactured to withstand harsh operating conditions; there is a suitable product available for every application.

Hazardous fluid storage tanks serve as one example of applications where on-site human measurements are difficult to carry out. Developed for a long time and now available as a finished product for the sixth year running, LabkoNet® has provided a solution to this problem, of which numerous pulp and paper mills, among others, serve as exam-

ples in addition to Lassila & Tikanoja's tank storage areas.

Another basic consideration in all applications is that real-time measurements can also be used for anticipating logistical needs.

"We now enjoy the benefit of receiving, well in advance, real-time information as to when the tanks need to be emptied and where. This helps the schedule planner to manage the big picture. We no longer face a situation where the filling up of a tank is noticed too late, which would incur unnecessary costs and increase the environmental risks," Tero Seppänen explains.

Lassila & Tikanoja stores and handles at its Tornio, Oulu and Raahe waste collection stations hazardous fluids originating from industry and from cargo vessels, such as ship and other waste oils, oily water and, in particular, machining emulsions and other cutting fluids from the mechanical engineering industry. The exact measurement of their amount is challenging.

"When the measurement result in a hazardous fluid storage tank always matches reality at an accuracy of less than one hundred litres, the performance is more than adequate," he says.

Measure your success
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