

INSTRUMENTATION ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS

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OMNI Powers Up “The Transmitter”

OMNI Instrumentation Services is proud to introduce our company newsletter “The Transmitter”. We look forward to periodically sharing with you updates about our company and interesting information about the world of process instrumentation. Please feel free to pass “The Transmitter” along to any friends or colleagues that may be interested or entertained by it. We hope you enjoy it and we welcome your feedback.

OMNI and the ISPE 2010 Facility of the Year: Listening to what customers need.

Omni recently completed work on a project that was selected by ISPE, INTERPHEX and Pharmaceutical Processing Magazine as winner of the “2010 Facility of the Year” in two separate categories, *Equipment Innovation* and *Process Innovation*. The facility was the best of a select group of 21 state-of-the-art projects that were constructed in 12 different countries. This is the second time in the past few years that Omni has played an integral part in the construction of an ISPE Facility of the Year.

As we do on each and every project, Omni took on this challenge with an intensive, hands-on approach. We listened to our client’s needs, asked questions, and thoroughly familiarized ourselves with day to day operations. Exhaustive consideration was given to every detail, such as where and how to place indicating transmitters, where to locate HMIs, VFDs, HOAs, point of use, valves, and e-stops, ultimately ease the use for operators. Weekly meetings and frequent system walkthroughs with owners, process staff and construction managers kept open lines of effective communication. Omni was also given the opportunity to be a big part of the commissioning team. Specialized teams worked closely together, meeting in the process areas on a daily basis to ensure the success of the facility and its systems. Omni is proud to have participated in this ground-breaking project.



OMNI Tech Talk: Waste Neutralization

Omni Tech Talk is a brief article that helps our customers identify and solve common field problems.

At first glance, waste neutralization appears to be a fairly simple process: collect waste water and neutralize the water's pH to 7.0 or to an acceptable range before pumping it out. Omni has worked with many systems over the years, from stick-built to complete packaged systems.

Stick-built systems may sound simple enough, but if a few simple but crucial rules are not followed, getting them to operate properly can be a real struggle. Stick-built systems must have simple-but-proven robust instruments, such as level transmitters, pH monitoring and dosing, and special attention must be given to grounding and location of pH sensing probes. Packaged systems have their share of problems as well. We recommend that owners have an FAT (factory acceptance test) on as many parts of these systems as possible. If your system is not factory tested, you've missed a big chance to correct problems that will haunt you in the field.

Omni has solved many elusive problems on package systems that come back to the basics, things as simple as an improper power supply or minor glitches within programming sequences. Our field techs solve these problems by walking your system through a simple check list: 1) Are your instruments proven for your application? 2) Are all of instruments and control cabinets properly grounded? 3) Do you have clean UPS power to controls and PLC's? 4) Is the sequence of operation simple to follow with proper parameters on water level and pH? 5) Do piping and check valves direct flow and water properly throughout the system and out?

Remember, not paying attention to the basics can lead to an ongoing battle to get your waste neutralization system under control and prevent flooding. If you are having problems with your system, Omni can help.

The OMNI Safety Corner

Omni Instrumentation boasts one of the best safety records in our industry, with 8+ years of no recordable incidents. Omni has participated in numerous OSHA VPP projects, and we are ISNetworld approved.



FROM THE PANEL SHOP

Omni Instrumentation has a fully integrated, UL-listed panel shop where we design, fabricate and test control panels and skidded equipment of every size and function for pharmaceutical, petrochemical, and many other specialty industries.



In the photos above, Omni has fabricated a breathing-air skid for one of our pharmaceutical clients. The design of this breathing-air skid is enhanced by the placement of all of the control panels to one side of the skid (left photo). The photo on the right shows full access to all valves, gauges and BA cylinders that will mount on the rear rack. In the floor of the unit are two steel-reinforced openings to accommodate a fork lift to easily rig the skid into place.

Top 10 Things That Became Obsolete This Decade:

As the decade comes to a close, just about every major news outlet has compiled "Top Ten" lists for the first decade of the millennium. Here's an interesting one most of us can relate to.

1. Dial-up internet – Is there anyone out there still using dial-up?
2. Encyclopedias – Wikipedia certainly takes up less space.
3. CDs – Most of us are now downloading our favorite music, one song at a time.
4. Landline phones – In N.J, landline subscribers have decreased by 50% since 2000.
5. Film & film cameras – Digital photography is easy, instant and cheap.
6. Yellow pages & address books – Now we use web searches and smartphones.
7. Fax machines – With the "paperless" trend, faxes aren't so useful anymore.
8. Handwritten letters – Sad but true. When's the last time you received a handwritten letter?
9. Newspaper classified ads – Replaced by sites like Craigslist and Monster.com.
10. Phone calls – Americans sent more than 110 billion text messages in Dec. 2008.