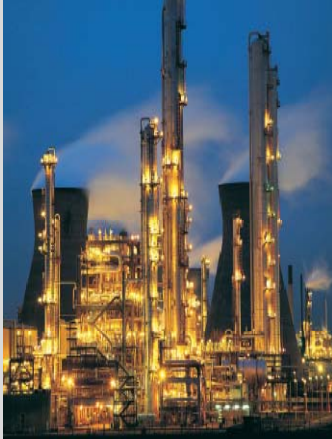


# International Agro-Processor Requests Evaluation of Control System Maintenance Procedures

An international agro-processor desired an external assessment of its methods for maintaining control system software. The assessment objective was to evaluate how effectively current onsite methods could sustain the reliability and standardization of its control systems.



## Main Objective

The client requested that MAVERICK perform an assessment of an arbitrarily selected control system installed at one of its facilities. The objective of the assessment was to evaluate two aspects of how the integrity of the control system was sustained over its lifetime and evolution. The first aspect covered archiving of backup copies of the control system software for the purpose of disaster recovery. The second aspect covered the management of the control system software given a continuously changing environment.

## Customer Results

MAVERICK successfully evaluated how reliable the client's backup methods were for establishing a recovery point in the event of a system failure. Furthermore, the assessment successfully evaluated how effectively modifications to the control system software were managed in the effort of keeping the software optimized and compliant to current programming standards. Upon review of the findings, the client was presented with corrective action recommendations for issues revealed to be less than desirable.

## Application Description

- The MAVERICK team made a comparison of online data to backup data in order to assess the integrity of system settings, programming logic and I/O configuration.
- Discrepancies were documented and reported to management along with a work plan that included recommendations for eliminating the discrepancies.
- MAVERICK inspected disabled programming logic, bypasses, and logic that was forced to a preferred state or did not conform to the client's programming standards.
- The existing Management of Change procedure was assessed and a plan was presented with recommendations for future improvements.
- MAVERICK assessed the software's structure and provided the customer with recommendations for keeping the control software standardized, organized, unambiguous and free of unnecessary and/or obsolete logic.
- MAVERICK evaluated the overall system configuration and runtime data to insure the control system software was running within recommended parameters for maximum efficiency.

## The MAVERICK Difference

On a catastrophic system failure, good procedures, current backups, and system software availability will be the difference between failure and success. MAVERICK was able to demonstrate to the customer the value of sustaining system integrity by having a quality Management of Change process as well as standardized backup and maintenance procedures.