InfoScript at North Mine

Marc Paquette at Vale's north mine knows a lot about LED message boards for underground mines.

Marc is an automation engineer, and he has purchased several different boards during the last few years and found all of them, in one way or another, not quite up to the job.

"We were really tired of the service calls to keep our boards running properly and I was actually looking on Amazon to see if we could get something better. Then Accutron came out with InfoScript. I have worked with Accutron before. Their products work well, and their customer support is excellent. The Accutron InfoScript does exactly what we want it to do and it's reliable!"

Marc was looking to better manage carbon monoxide in the mine, and he wanted to use the message board to regulate traffic in specific zones where CO levels often spike. North Mine tracks its vehicles, and each vehicle is assigned a CFM value. Marc needed a smart message board which could pull the tracking data and warn drivers to stop and wait before entering a zone which already had too many vehicles in it.

Marc says the Accutron InfoScript is easy to program. "Everything is registry based and everything from our PLC goes on the register. I can do all the math on the PLC and pull all the different devices. Then I go on the InfoScript and plug in the IP address, add it to the registry, and it's done. Now InfoScript is reliably pulling the data (Infoscript connects to any/all Modbus TCP devices on the network) and broadcasting easy to read messages in three different colours."

"When we enter the crusher area, we can display the total CO in the area on one line. We can add another line which says the crusher is currently running. If we want to display something else, the option is there, which is fantastic."

Marc likes InfoScript's web-based format and says creating new screens or adding new lines to existing screens is "a piece of cake."

"InfoScript takes the best of all the other displays out there for underground mines and puts it into one. That's the best way I can describe it."

Marc Paquette
Automation Specialist

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