

EXPERION® ARO ENSURES BUSINESS CONTINUITY AT ANGLO AMERICAN COPPER SMELTING PLANT

Case Study

COVID-19 continues to pose significant risks to the many industrial facilities worldwide where safe operation requires on-site control room operators. To mitigate these risks, Anglo American Sur, S.A.'s Fundición Chagres copper smelting plant took decisive action and deployed the Experion® Augmented Remote Operations (ARO) solution.

CHALLENGE

Today, like other large industrial operators, Anglo American Sur, S.A. is considering new strategies for maintaining safe, reliable plant operations with significantly reduced control room staff. The company operates as a copper mining and smelting enterprise in Chile. Anglo American owns and operates copper mines that produce copper concentrate, copper cathode and molybdenum. It also owns and operates a copper smelter that produces copper anode.

Given the constraints of the current pandemic on industrial facilities, remote enablement and business continuity assurance have never been more important. Increasingly, plant personnel are expected to perform their work from a distance given the need for a far more remote workforce.

Anglo American recognized the need to establish alternate, remote operation locations to ensure continued operation in case sufficient operators were unavailable onsite, or in the event an infection occurred requiring evacuation and sanitization of its plant control room.

SOLUTION

After consulting with Honeywell, Anglo American decided to implement Experion ARO. This advanced solution is specifically designed to meet the unique demands of critical process industry operations. It is used to deploy highly cybersecure, augmented remote operations whereby engineers or operators working remotely have the same integrated user experience as if they were at the site. Personnel working remotely can view the



"Experion ARO enabled us to quickly provide remote operating locations with very similar capabilities to how the operator works normally using Orion Console and has given us the confidence that we can maintain operations in case of any emergency."

— RENE SANCHEZ,

CONTROL AND INSTRUMENTATION ENGINEERING
MANAGER, ANGLO AMERICAN SUR, S.A.

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process in real-time by looking at the same graphics and alarms that they normally see in the control center. This solution also decreases the response time for emergencies or abnormal situations by providing access to experts wherever they're located.

The Experion ARO solution was rapidly deployed for the Fundición Chagres copper smelting plant to mitigate the risk of a plant shutdown if there were insufficient on-site operators to meet mandated safety requirements. Remote operating locations that replicated the control room Orion Console Human-Machine Interface (HMI) were setup off site in Anglo American's nearby administration office. Additional remote clients were also deployed to enable engineers to provide operational support from anywhere outside the control room.



RESULTS

For Anglo American Sur, S.A., the Experion ARO solution allowed for rapid, flexible and secure deployment of a remote operations capability. Honeywell's development of a prepackaged remote solution streamlines the implementation, testing and certification of remote access points for monitoring and controlling industrial processing sites. In addition, the solution is easily tailored to meet the user's operational needs and unique topology and Information Technology (IT) requirements.

Within a few days, three remote operating locations—one for each required operator—were in use for Anglo American's copper smelter.

The plant was successfully operated from the remote locations during an extensive testing period. Experion ARO provided operational and performance capabilities comparable to being in the onsite control room. Additional remote clients have enabled engineers to monitor operations and provide essential support whenever it's required from wherever they are.

Thanks to Experion ARO, Anglo American can now mitigate risks to the health and safety of its engineering and operational staff. Process experts can quickly and securely log in from almost any location to troubleshoot and resolve problems—reducing emergency response time.

For more information

To learn how Honeywell's remote solutions can help you create more efficient, safe and profitable operations, visit [Honeywell Remote Solutions](#) or contact your Honeywell account manager.

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