



A Rockwell Automation Company

EnCana Corporation Metering Point Automation

The Client:

EnCana is the largest independent natural gas producer in North America and operates a number of natural gas fields in Northern Alberta that are characterized low-pressure, low-production wells. In these fields many wells are drilled and gathering

systems link them together, bringing a single lateral line into a metering and compression station.

The Requirement:

The Encana natural gas fields were low production fields with no automation infrastructure to allow for informal data gathering. With the large number of wells that characterize this type of field, the challenge for Hinz was to provide the client with a

way to effectively manage the increasing number of wells without also requiring an increase in manpower. This would require a proposed automation solution which would alleviate the need to hire more operators as the fields expanded.

The Design Solution:

Hinz performed an investigation into the problem by executing a site survey as part of a previous project. This survey included a review of the field facilities, interviews with supervisors and operations staff, and discussions with head office engineering and accounting. The results of this report were used to develop the solution for this project.

Due to the high number of wells and the low production of each well, the design had to work within the criterion that it would not be feasible to automate each wellhead. Also the terrain was very hilly and densely treed making radio communications very difficult.

By automating strategic metering points where a number of wells are gathered at the lateral lines, a cost effective solution was found. The challenge would be communicating to these metering points.

Using advanced radio configuration strategies, data was relayed between points to gather the data to master RTUs.

Another design criterion was to provide the data to the wider interest of the corporation. This drove the design to include moving the data from the field to head office where it could be made available to the wider corporate audience.

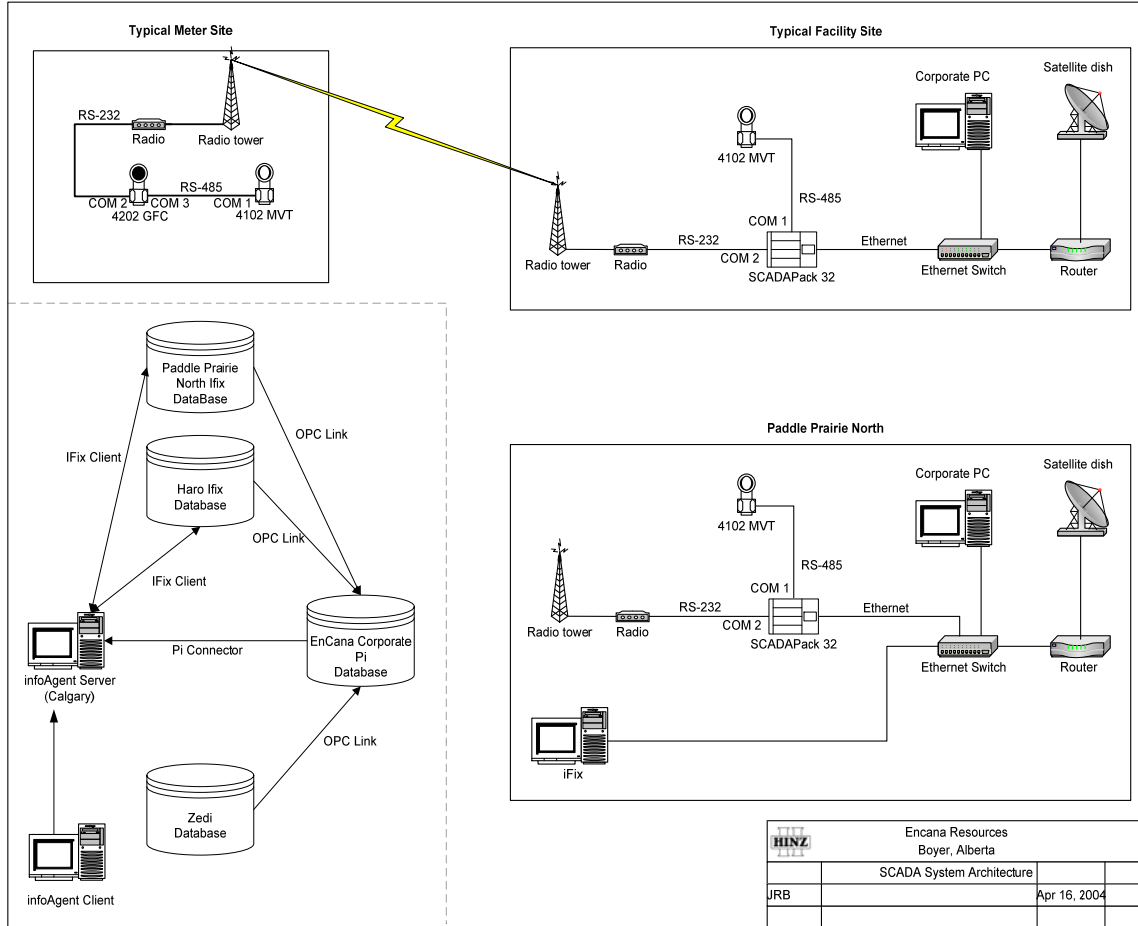
The design included local communications over spread spectrum radios and wide area communications over the corporate VSAT network.

Hinz provided a turnkey system and was responsible to provide all engineering, site construction, installation, commissioning, and startup.



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System Specifications:

- SCADAPack 32 with 4101 or 4202 three in one transmitters
- MDS spread spectrum radio
- Solteck solar power system
- IFix HMI
- IFix InfoAgent
- DELL PC

For further information or to contact a Hinz office near you, please check our website at:

www.hinz.com