

Profibus- Profinet User Conference, 30th June, Steve Moore

The Use of Profibus in a Renewable Energy Application

PROFIBUS - PROFINET User conference



Introduction

- Application description
- System Development
- Decision Making
- Control & Monitoring Requirements
- Process Optimisation
- Application Video



Application Description



Renewable Applications

- The renewable energy market presents an extremely large opportunity for power electronic equipment suppliers
- Examples of current Renewable Energy applications
 - Wind
 - Tidal
 - Hydro
 - Solar (Photovoltaic and Thermal)
 - Biomass



Hydro Applications

Typical hydro turbine application examples







Kaplan

Pelton

Francis





Archimedes Screw Generator

- Solution been used as a method of raising water for centuries
- Recent trials have proven that they can also be used for generating electrical power





Typical Screw Generator Installation









- Screw rotates at low speeds (typically 25-35 rpm)
- Typical powers from 1-100's kW
- Two generator options available in conjunction with a gearbox
 - Induction generator
 - Commonly available in 4 to 8 pole designs
 - High efficiency
 - Permanent magnet synchronous generator
 - Lower speed options available
 - More complex machine
 - High efficiency



- Before the first trial system order two options were investigated
- Option 1
 - 4 pole induction generator with three stage gearbox
- Option 2
 - ~300 rpm base speed PM generator with two stage gearbox
- Overall system efficiency was calculated at different loads and speeds
- Which one do you think was used ?



- With this type of hydro turbine you cannot control the prime mover to give a constant screw speed (same as a wind turbine).
- This means the use of an inverter to control the generator and return energy to the grid.
- This is done using standard variable speed drive hardware.



System Development – Regenerative AC drive







Decision Making



Decision Making

- The decision was made to use induction generator with higher ratio gearbox
- Why ?
 - String efficiency was only 1-2% lower than for the PM design but the initial cost was approx 50% higher for the drive and motor
 - Motor was readily available (ex stock), easy to maintain and serviceable by existing site workforce
 - VSD spares already available locally



Decision Making

- End user
 - YW Esholt WWTW
- OEM
 - Spaans Babcock Ltd
- Main Contractor
 - JN Bentleys Ltd
- Panel Builder
 - CEMA Ltd
- 2 x 90kW generators in series
- Approx 2,700 l/sec flow
- 10m drop









- End User specified Mitsubishi PLC's for the site and required the control and monitoring to be performed from this device
- PLC to send
 - Command word
 - Speed reference
- PLC to receive
 - Actual motor power, torque and current
 - Motor nominal power
 - Fault code
 - Digital input status
 - Regenerative power



Decision made to use Profibus for this functionality and implemented in the drive as follows

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51: COMM MODULE DATA	51.09: PZD5 OUT	0	Par.51.9
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	51.11: PZD6 OUT	0	Par.51.11
	51.12: PZD6 IN	117	Par.51.12
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99: START-UP DATA	51.24: FIELDBUS PAR24	<read-protected></read-protected>	Par.51.24
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191: Group 191 Backup	51.31: FBA STATUS	ON-LINE	Par.51.31
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System HMI display as follows







Process Optimisation



Process Optimisation

- How can we be sure that we are extracting the maximum energy from the system ?
- ABB and Spaans Babcock have worked together to model the power output from the system at different loads and speeds
- Screw speed should follow the flow rate of the river but this is often difficult and expensive to obtain
- It has been found by calculation that the maximum power can be extracted by controlling the height of the water in the penstock preceding the turbine itself
- An ongoing project is to collect the site data to back up the calculations
- This data is already available over the Profibus link





Application Video



Application Video

Application Video



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