

Synergy Automation

COPA-DATA Partner Spotlight



Synergy Automation is a UK provider of leading industrial automation solutions, specialising in visualisations, software and Beckhoff hardware. With over a decade of experience, Synergy Automation appreciates industry collaboration, which is part of the reason it joined the COPA-DATA Partner Community.

THE PATH TO ZENON

In recent years, Synergy Automation noticed an increasing need among its customers for quickly developed, scalable front end solutions. The software for Human Machine Interfaces (HMIs) previously used by the team at Synergy Automation became harder to manage, with the training process for the customers' engineers becoming costly and inefficient.

Industry waits for no man, so Synergy Automation's Managing Director, David Grice, was keen to find a multiplatform software provider with a focus on product innovation and longevity. He was also looking for a software solution that supported the range of Windows operating systems, as well as a multitude of communication protocols.

The answer came in the form of COPA-DATA's software, zenon, which Grice had initially been introduced to earlier during his time working as a Software Project and Support Engineer at Hayes Controls, now Beckhoff Automation UK. In 2005, he worked on a project that used zenon to facilitate seamless integration of Beckhoff's TwinCAT software system.

THE RANGE OF SOLUTIONS

Grice explains: "zenon offered what no other software could – rapid development for user front end. This allowed us to take on larger, more complex projects. We are now able to offer a complete solution, from Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) to front end development, which is extremely important for our customers."



zenon has additional functions that Synergy Automation's previous HMI software did not offer: user administration, Recipe Group Manager (RGM), reports, alarms management, to name a few. The new functions have proven useful in sectors like Food and Beverage, packaging and for the tailored solutions Synergy Automation offers to machine builders.

zenon's application transparency also means Synergy Automation can easily reverse engineer to make problem-solving easier than ever before. Although change is never easy, the reaction from end users is always a positive one. Customers have been very pleased with screen ergonomics and the simple handover of development code.

THE PARTNERSHIP WITH COPA-DATA

Grice continues: "Perhaps the best thing about being part of the COPA-DATA Partner Community is the increased support available through COPA-DATA's developers and industry experts. Answers are usually only a phone call away and the partner forum is an extremely handy tool. We would recommend becoming a partner to any company that is dedicated to continuous improvement when it comes to industrial automation software. It's a good knowledge-sharing opportunity and it helps get more exposure to potential customers, not to mention partners get free upgrades of the development license."

ABOUT COPA-DATA

COPA-DATA is the technological leader for ergonomic and highly-dynamic process solutions.

[Learn more at www.copadata.com!](http://www.copadata.com)

"With zenon we are able to offer multi-platform, PLC independent HMI and SCADA systems to all machine builders, to provide ergonomic and user friendly interfaces to a global audience."

DAVID GRICE
MANAGING DIRECTOR, SYNERGY AUTOMATION



Synergy Automation Ltd

Synergy Automation is an industrial automation solutions provider based in Cheshire, United Kingdom. The company specialises in Beckhoff hardware and zenon systems for a wide range of industrial applications.

KEY FACTS

- ▶ COPA-DATA Partner since*: 2014
- ▶ Industries served: Machine building, Food and Beverage, packaging
- ▶ Partner Contact Details:
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* The COPA-DATA Partner Community was officially introduced in 2011.