

Automotive Manufacturer Installs MDT AutoSave to Prevent Downtime After a PLC Failure



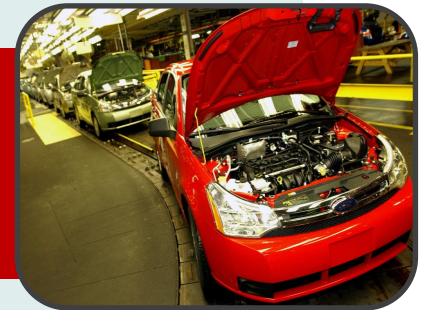
Application Story: Automotive

Challenge:

A U.S. plant for one of the world's largest automotive manufacturers experienced a failure with one of their PLC devices and the program configuration was lost. A copy of the configuration was not available so an older version of the device program was used. Extensive editing was required to match the old program data to the currently required processes. Locating the old program and making the necessary updates resulted in 6 hours of lost production.



The plant stated that if they had AutoSave at the time of the PLC failure, the reduced downtime would have paid for the system.



Solution:

After the significant loss of production time, the plant researched program version control solutions. They selected the AutoSave Change Management Software from MDT because it supports the largest range of devices in the industry, enabling the plant to implement plant-wide change control. They noted AutoSave's ability to save all program changes to a common central repository so if a program is lost due to device failure, power loss, etc., the most current copies of program logic can be automatically retrieved and plant operations can be restored quickly and correctly. In addition, they liked AutoSave's detailed change comparison so that any two copies of a program can be compared to each other or the processor to detect and identify changes that may have been unknown or unauthorized.



Results:

The success of the installation at this plant has led to deployments of AutoSave at other plants within the enterprise, with further expansion planned. Plant personnel have stated that if they had AutoSave at the time of the initial PLC failure, the reduced downtime would have paid for the AutoSave system.

