



## 0 – 2000°C

### Tried-and-tested iFIX HMI/SCADA system now enhanced for process optimisation

Today Kanthal is a world-leading manufacturer of resistance material including wire, bimetals, heating elements and complete heating solutions for industrial furnaces up to 2000°C. The company also manufactures material for heating household appliances, photocopying machines, air purification systems and other power heated equipment. Kanthal AB has been part of the Sandviken AB company since 1997 and has 1,400 employees.

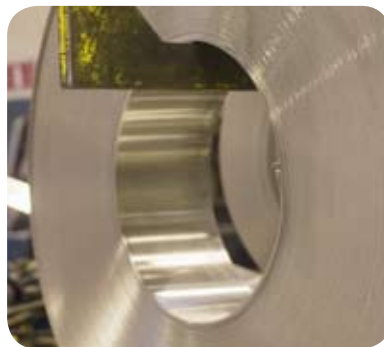
#### SOLUTIONS FROM NOVOTEK SINCE 1994

– Our collaboration started when we wanted to enhance the control of production at our smelting plant. This was the first time we used a PC in the production process, says Per Eriksson, contact person at Kanthal in Hallstahammar.

– Back then we had eight PCs, of which two had iFIX installed. We chose and connected up the first iFix versions. Since then it has kept

*“The process of expanding iFIX over the years with new installations and upgrades has gone smoothly. One big advantage is that iFIX is compatible with any system we use.”*

Per Eriksson, project manager at Kanthal in Hallstahammar



Kanthal is a world-leading manufacturer of resistance material and complete heating solutions.

Kanthal is a steel alloy consisting of chrome, aluminium and iron. It is known for its ability to withstand high temperatures and for having great electrical resistance. Hans von Kantzow founded the company in 1931 to develop the alloy he had invented.

growing and growing. We eventually realised that this was a good system and we decided to stick with it. Having now built up competence in this area, we can confidently use the same system for both our PC and SCADA environments. As iFIX is such an open system, we have gradually been able to expand the number of process parts all the way to the ventilation.

Today iFIX is used at wastewater treatment plants, ovens, rolling mills, blast furnaces and fixed supervision and central security alarm systems. It has a structure which allows the operators to supervise the whole production area and click their way down to individual buildings and machines.

– Every screen image has the same basic layout, so you always know where you are, says Per Eriksson.

– The process of expanding iFIX's over the years with new in-



stallations and upgrades has gone smoothly. One big advantage is that iFIX is compatible with any system we use. Today we use Mitsubishi as our main system and Siemens as number two. We are now also using iFIX for our ABB system.

#### PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENT STEPS

Most recently, the company installed Proficy Historian to analyse its historical production data. This will enable it find hidden problems and detect parameter correlations that may reveal new ways to enhance production.

The downtime reporting system, which was installed in the summer of 2007 for analysing key downtime statistics, is an important component in the solution.

– Initially we had FIX Classic Historian. When we got Proficy Historian we converted all our old historical data into the new system. Its main advantage is speed, says



Per Eriksson.

– Retrieving data is an amazingly fast process. Even complicated, large amounts of data comes up on the screen instantly. Data compression is also much improved and easier on disk space than before.

#### ADVANCED SECURITY

The security system is also highly developed. Although everyone can be given access to the same information, it is simple to control who has access to which signatures and parameters.

– Not all processes should be accessible to everyone; process developers, for example, usually only need access to information in their own departments. And you don't want sensitive information falling into the wrong hands, says Per Eriksson.

#### SERVICE AND AVAILABILITY

Through the years Kanthal has had plenty of experience of dealing with Novotek's support and service with upgrades and service agreements, etc.

– There have been very few problems; we've always received dependable support when we needed help. We have a solid partnership pure and simple. We have had an excellent collaboration with the Eskilstuna and Västerås offices in particular," he says.

*iFIX has a structure which allows the operators to supervise the whole production area.*

## FACTS

#### COMPANY

Kanthal AB

#### SOLUTIONS

- Production information
- Comprehensive reporting
- Process optimisation
- Recording of downtime
- Supervision
- Version management

#### PRODUCTS

- Proficy Plant Applications
- Proficy Historian
- Proficy Realtime Information Portal – with Oracle Connector
- Proficy iFIX
- Proficy iClientTS
- Proficy Change Management

#### ADVANTAGES

- An integrated control and information system
- Efficient machine and downtime follow-ups
- Speedy access to relevant information
- Process optimisation of hidden problems
- Key figure analysis
- Individual user-based security
- Standardised layouts for simple navigation

For more information on our smart solutions, please visit our website [www.novotek.se](http://www.novotek.se)

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