



BSA launches the first industrial GPRS application of Europe

There is much talked about GPRS, UMTS and mobile data-communication. It should be the future, but in practice there are a few examples. Even no examples at all, until now.... In November 2002 Boerman System Automation (BSA) in Moerdijk has the first industrial embedded GPRS application of Europe successful operational.

Now the first application is "In the air" BSA starts to discover other markets to sell the applied GPRS technique. Jacco Asselbergs from Syntens Vlissingen is in this case involved, knows, Boerman: "he makes me think and with his critical opinion he helps me to make the right decisions."

GPRS is a wireless infrastructure for data communication. The advantage of sending data with a mobile phone is, the connection of GPRS is always open and the price is per byte and not per minute. The application which is developed by BSA contains a mobile network of pumps. A customer of Boerman System Automation owns pumps in the whole country. The pumps are used for effluent from the sewer system. These pumps have to be visited regular by mechanics to change the settings, fix failures etc. These time-consuming and costly proceedings are now almost history. The pumps are equipped with an embedded web server and a GPRS modem and are connected to each other with a mobile "Virtual Private Network" This VPN forms a protected part of the internet, which is heavily protected. These unique combinations handles the connection between a computer with an internet connection and every pump in the country. Even communication with pumps by SMS and E-mail is possible. Breakdowns can be easily signalled and fixed, software can be updated, and in short the pumps can be full controlled from distance. Only with mechanical failures a mechanical engineer has to drive to the pump, but in this case he knows



what the problem is, before he is arriving at the pump location. With this information he can take the right spare parts with him. All this, saves a lot of time and money. Mobile communications helps people organisations and business and gives you the convenience.

Telemetric-system

The function of the by BSA developed 'telemetric system' is used for this case for a network of pumps, but there are a lot more possible applications in different circumstances. Boerman: "Our pilot contains in this case a network of pumps, but the uniqueness of our system is the wireless data communication, with in the whole country stationed devices and installations. I say our telemetric system is applicable for all companies who have business with a combination of logistics, mechanicals and drive time. But even then not all is covered. When I'm in the mood, I keep enumerating possibilities. Fortunately Syntens helps me to separate the chaff of the grain, it is only possible to concentrate us on a few markets at once." A different possible market where BSA is watching at is the one of hire and lease devices in combination with the telemetric system. More and more companies don't want to have own

devices; they only want to rent or lease them. In the US include this in mean time 80% of the market and in the Netherlands it is a growing line. This means, customers do not want to have a device, but they buy a function and put the responsibility for maintenance and failure to the provider. The provider need to get understanding of the use of the by him delivered device. "For example, it can happen that the maintenance of a machine is calculated by operating hours of the engine. This information can be send to the supplier who preventive maintain this machine. With this information it is easy to make a route for the mechanical engineer for preventive maintenance. Besides that, our system can give information if there are breakdowns and the source of it. In the best case the failure can be fixed from distance. If that is impossible a mechanical engineer can be send to the failure. The engineer receive a SMS or an E-mail and he knows what the problem is. More service is almost impossible!" BSA rest not on his laurels, this proves the fact, that the company request a patent for an application of the telemetric system. For details contact BSA: Phone number: +31 (0)166 657200 <http://www.bsa-site.nl>