

THE CUSTOMER

International Automotive Components (IAC) is a global supplier of automotive interiors (instrument panels, cockpits, door panels, center consoles and more).



REQUIREMENTS

IAC Elmdon required an overall process control and traceability system to error-proof the workflow on the Instrument Panel Topper line

RESULTS

- Controlled process with no faults forward
- Increased accuracy and quality of operations
- Full traceability using the Orion™ database
- 24/7 support contract



THE CHALLENGE

IAC turned to Sorion to implement an overall process control system incorporating operator **line control workstations and full traceability** of their new Instrument Panel Topper Line production facility at Elmdon, Birmingham.

The Topper Line has **17 main process areas** comprising of machines making high volumes of complex parts with the production output of 2,000 units per week.

The ability to integrate with existing machines and corporate plant monitoring software was key to this implementation.



The instrument panel topper line at IAC Elmdon

THE SOLUTION

The companies worked together to design the best solution to error-proof the workflow.

The solution provided **PC based Line Control Stations** for the various process areas and machines from third party suppliers plus provided IAC personnel control, maintenance and process change routines via secure RFID authentication and access control.

Sorion's **Sextans-RT runtime software** is the heart of the solution. Running on each local machine, Sextans utilises configuration data and custom scripting centrally managed from an IAC server.

As the products progress through the manufacturing line, they are identified via barcode scanner.

Sextans integrates with the machines via an OPC server to **guide, control and verify the process.**

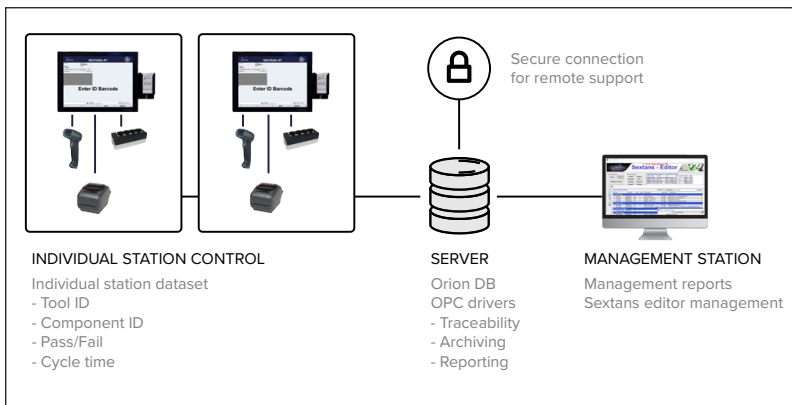
Once the product reaches the end of the line, it is inspected and palletised using the stillage management app.

Data for each process step completed at the station (such as shift, time, build no, component serial numbers, measured values and visual inspection data) is recorded in the Orion™ database.

This data is identified against a unique ID, allowing to retrieve each unit's complete history with a scan of a barcode.

Once in the Orion™ database, **quality assurance and performance reports** can be easily accessed via web browser interface from anywhere within IAC.

Having seen the benefit of the system to meet their traceability and quality requirements, IAC requested the implementation of a similar process control and traceability system on their Topper Sew and Wrap facility.



System architecture

Supporting the manufacturing system

Sorion's dedicated support team is providing 2nd line support to IAC engineers via a 24/7 service contract to ensure all mission critical equipment/systems are fully operational.

ABOUT SORION

Founded in 1990 and with equipment installed and operated by major OEMs and Tier 1 suppliers around the globe, Sorion Electronics has an established reputation for innovation, quality and reliability.

Your Partner for:

- Guided Assembly Process Control
- End of Line Test Systems
- Ruggedised Electrical Connectors & Harnesses
- Quality and Traceability Reporting
- Electronic Product Design and Development



Sorion Electronics Ltd
Magreal Industrial Estate
Freeth Street, Ladywood
Birmingham, B16 0QZ

THE SORION SOLUTION



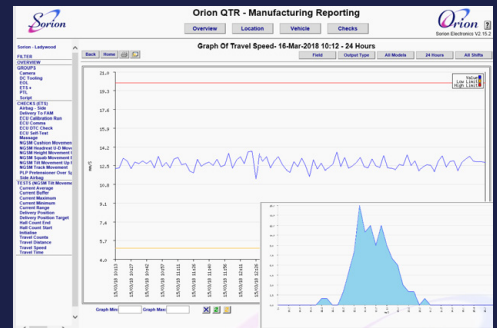
Sextans controls the process



Sextans integrates with the machines via OPC server



Stillaging application



Orion Quality and Traceability database

Tel: 0121 454 8966
Email: sales@sorion.co.uk
www.sorion.co.uk

