



# COMMS COURIER



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## Welcome

Welcome to our latest edition of the Comms Courier!  
Since our last issue we have further news to report on a number of issues and we hope you find some of them at least, of interest and value.

During mid August we will be conducting a Basic Operator training school in our offices in Wroxham, England and for the first time we will be issuing Digital Manuals!! This is something that has been a long standing request from our field based clientele and we are pleased to have finally reached the position where we are able to offer a non paper option. **Continued...**

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The paper and ink that we use when printing manuals is significant, so the environmental impact of changing to a digital delivery, is very evident.

From a practical field point of view you will no longer have to carry 5 kilo's of manual offshore, instead it will be just a few grams, we can almost hear your sighs of relief from here!!

On the subject of Training Schools our 2008 Course Calendar has been largely well attended with only one school having to be cancelled during the year so far through lack of available attendees at that time. We still have a Technicians, Advanced Operator and Basic Operator school still to run this year before setting up our new schedule for 2009. Please check out our website for the training calendar details and let us know about your interest in the same.



May we remind you that our website is an increasingly important portal and information service into our world displaying much of what we manufacture and also the backup services that we provide.

Many of us are vacationing over the western hemisphere summer months, but we look forward to issuing our pre Christmas Comms Courier with news of WallWatch trials in Saudi Arabia and Oman.

## A Day in the life of a Data Acquisition Hand



**Engineer:** Atif Shafaat  
**Nationality:** Pakistani  
**Work Location:** Saudi Arabia  
**Employer:** Expro Group

**What is your current position:**  
 Data Acquisition Supervisor.

**What are your main job functions.**  
 Overall in charge for the DAS services which includes management of personnel and equipment and preparation of final reports to the customers.

**What is your background (job history)?**  
 Commenced my professional life as CAD/CAM engineer in SUMITOMO Corporation in 1993. In 1996 joined Halliburton Energy Services in BHP/T gauges in 2002 transferred to Saudi Arabia in the well testing department.

**What aspects of your job do you find challenging?**  
 Bringing in, and implementation of new technologies and their subsequent introduction to provide solutions to our clients.

**How are the Fardux Data Acquisition products received in your work location?**  
 I would like to improve his English slightly as follows "Very well so far. We

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have already introduced the new Fardux features to our customer and should get further business.

**What are the challenges of data acquisition in a desert location as opposed to an offshore location.**

Well we have operations in both areas but obviously handling sand on surface and down hole are the big challenges (Sand Storms). Just now we are dealing in heavy oil flow on offshore and is quite challenging.



**What locations have you visited recently?**

I am normally involved in field operations and frequently visit Saudi locations where our equipment is in use. I have worked all over the Middle East and in Pakistan

**Was there a highlight or lowlight?**

Sand Management System, Heavy Oil flowback on offshore, RTO implementations, Multiphase Flow Meters, Inline Deliverability Tests.

**What location would you like to travel/work in?**

I think Saudi is the best place to work where the frequency of jobs is very high because of the biggest oil production in world.

**How does your family life cope with you being away?**

Well it's hard to understand but they are pretty much independent because of the compound life but I am managing after picking up this role because mostly I am the last engineer to go out in field.

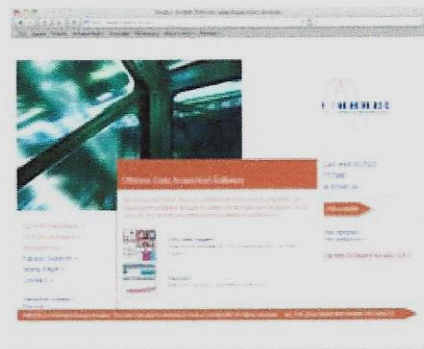
**What are your Hobbies?**

Playing and watching Cricket and watching news.

# Have you got the latest version of software?

Despite our efforts to encourage all users to employ the same software version it is apparent that there are a number of old versions of software being run in far flung corners of the world. While we support most versions of the code, even some very old versions, this kind of situation hampers our efforts and creates an unnecessary support overhead.

Please check our web site on a regular basis so that you are aware of the most recent software version. [www.fardux.co.uk/software.htm](http://www.fardux.co.uk/software.htm)



To improve our delivery, Fardux intends to make our software available from our website. This will require the use of a Username and Password to enable access to the download site. These will only be issued to authorised personnel, and will be made available on request. This new service will be available from the 1st September 2008.

Anybody wishing to use this service can apply for a username and password by emailing us at [fardux@wellwisegroup.com](mailto:fardux@wellwisegroup.com) please provide us with:

- Full name
- Employer
- Work Location
- Job Title

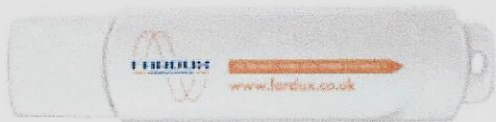
The latest version is 3.0.3 and the next planned release will be in the last quarter of 2008. Full details of which will be made available in future newsletters.

# Training Manuals go Digital

**Fardux is an ISO14000 registered company and part of our commitment to the environment is to reduce our carbon footprint.**

One ream of paper generates 2.27 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub>; combined with the savings in ink to produce 300 pages of full colour copy and shipping all around the world the environmental savings are significant.

In light of this information and many requests from you, our clients, Fardux will now issue training manuals in a digital format. The first digital manuals were released to students at our Operator Basic Training Course which commenced in Wroxham on the 11th August, 2008.



Upgrades from existing paper manuals to digital format are also available; please contact Fardux for further details.

If paper manuals are still requested they will be provided at an additional charge, details of these charges will be made available when booking a training course.

We have for a long time been concerned about our intellectual property and for this reason the digital manuals will be encrypted and all copy and print functions disabled.

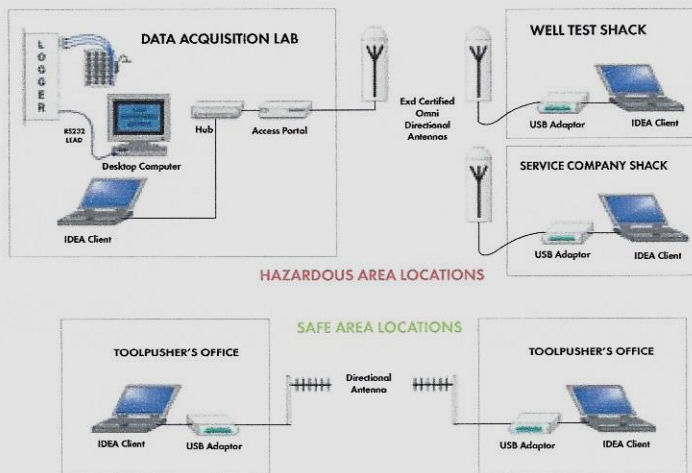
# Wireless Local Area Networking

**On the rig site the customer always wants the data now!**

Using a network has always been the normal method of achieving this but it involves a lot of work running cables and interfaces to the company man's, toolpusher's, etc offices. This combined with the restriction of not being able to run TCP/IP cable through a hazardous area makes wireless networking a quicker solution.

The hazard area problem also effects wireless networking therefore the Fardux Wireless networking systems can employ a certified system to function within the hazardous areas.

At Fardux we provide the complete system ready to be used from the Antenna's (Certified & Uncertified), the Antenna Stands, the Wireless Network Adapters, Access Points both in either EXD certified or safe area certification.



The above schematic shows a simple wireless network configuration.

Fardux can assist in the design, implementation and supply of all aspects of the networking process.



W.I.T.S. was originally developed by IADC (International Association of Drilling Contractors) as a means of transferring rig site data from one company to another with some format protocols preset which we recognise today as Records and Item Numbers.

WITS/ML is a variant of the existing WITS system allowing the transference of well site data across TCP/IP networks including the Internet via a pre-defined XML template.

WITSML uses an internet like format, XML, which is specifically designed to carry data. This combined with the ability to set display tags will allow users to utilise pre defined screens much as the internet does.

At this time some issues still exist with the implementation of Server and Client linked WITSML. In many ways these hurdles are similar although more complex, to those encountered with the original WITS, in that both Server and connected Clients must have their configurations the same in order for WITSML to function. Standards in our experience particularly in Well Testing and Production arena's seem to be non existent leading to a host of special schema's being developed by Operating Companies to which Service Companies are expected to comply. This is entirely possible but does mean development costs are incurred between one Operator and the next since no standard exists. Time to make such changes also, can not be ignored - its certainly not an "off the shelf" solution. When implementing WITSML, it will, certainly for the foreseeable

# WITSML

(Wellsite Information Transfer Standard Markup Language)



future, be necessary to fully agree the scope of supply for gathered information and display schema's / tags.

As is our normal M.O. Fardux don't intend to jump into providing any WITSML functionality until we are able to provide a software solution to our clients that is as close to a standard as its possible to get with a "Well Test" ( even if we have to set the standard ourselves ). Additionally we need to formalize our technical approach within the framework of commercial and time line boundaries. It will be important for us to build a product which clearly enables our clients to be fully aware concerning their likely in-house costs to modify application code to suit the inevitable specials that will come up from Operator to Operator until the dust settles.

**Fardux will have a WITSML software offering by the end of 2008!!**

In the mean time we continue to offer our own bespoke TCP/IP Internet solution, which we call DataCast which has no special configurations required and allows the client viewer to access real time data in a display format substantially similar to that shown on the Rig Server and also selectable reporting intervals for data smoothing of production flow rates.



## Flowback Safety

With more major stimulations being carried out the flowback process becomes more hazardous as a high velocity well effluent carries a load, Frac Sand or even Produced sand, the potential exists to erode flowlines.

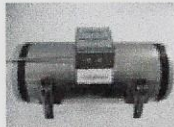
To combat flowline washouts Fardux have developed two new products SandSnoop & WallWatch giving the user the ability to monitor Sand Production and wall thickness alongside all the conventional parameters from the IDEA software package.

With this combination the user can display, plot, record all the parameters that make the job of flowing a "sand producing" well safer.

### WallWatch

#### Real Time Wall Thickness monitoring system.

Wallwatch uses an array of sensors clamped around the pipe to produce an accurate wall thickness profile. Each mat contains 14 individual ultrasonic transducers capable of measuring wall thicknesses between 5 to 25 mm.



### SandSnoop

#### Real Time Sand Particle Monitoring System.

SandSnoops non invasive acoustic probe hears the most minute sand impingements while at the same time using a dynamic software routine automatically filtering out unwanted background noise and compensating for flow noise produced by differing flow rates.



### Temperature Probes

In a sand flowback the temperature probe thermowell is always subject to erosion by the well effluent. In order to prevent this potential hazard Fardux offer a series of "Clamp On" intrinsically safe temperature transducers that eliminate the need for intrusive thermowells.



# Hazardous and Explosive Gas Monitoring

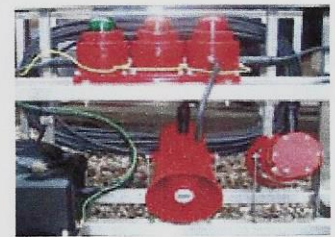
Beyond the normal transducer inputs of Pressure, Temperature, Differential Pressure and Pulse Counting from flow meters that you would normally associate with Fardux, we also provide sensors for Gas Monitoring which can be wired into the IDEA Enterprise or Lite systems thereby removing the necessity to have a separate system to measure such gases.

Everybody knows the dangers associated with explosive gas or poisonous gas in the atmosphere. To enhance safety in these situations Fardux provides Gas Detection Stations to enable the operator to detect an unsafe concentration of gas in the atmosphere. Gas Detection Stations are available in two configurations a dual head H<sub>2</sub>s/ LEL, and a single head H<sub>2</sub>s. These stations plug into the data logger exactly the same way as a pressure transducer, allowing the recording, tending and reporting of the measured parameter values.

To further increase safety an OLSB ( Output Logic Switch Box ) and Sounder/ Beacon skid can be added to the system, this enables the operator to set external alarms to flash a custom selection of lights and sounders to warn all personal if a dangerous situation arises.



Dual head H<sub>2</sub>s/LeI station



Alarm/sounder skid

Further details can be found on the website

[http://www.fardux.co.uk/gas\\_detection.htm](http://www.fardux.co.uk/gas_detection.htm)

[http://www.fardux.co.uk/olsb\\_hardware.htm](http://www.fardux.co.uk/olsb_hardware.htm)

## W.E.E.E. Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment



The UK WEEE regulations, introduced at the beginning of 2007, aim to reduce the amount of waste being produced and encourage everyone to reuse, recycle or recover it.

You will notice that some electronic equipment delivered by Fardux will have the new sticker attached. This is related to Fardux's commitment to the correct disposal of controlled waste substances.

Electrical and Electronic equipment that has reached end of life must be disposed of correctly and this equipment must not be disposed of to landfill sites.

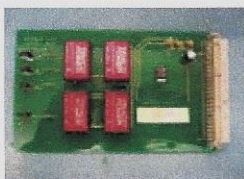
All steel/metal parts can be re-cycled.

All other components must be dealt with under local waste management regulations.

The intrinsic value of end of life Fardux product is not significant, so it may be best dealt with in country rather than send it back to us.

Please try and dispose of all your electronic waste considerately.

**All new Fardux product will exhibit the relevant signage as of 1st August 2008.**



## Can we help you? Yes we can!!

Technical Support questions are many and varied and we often have to spent your valuable time at the front end of the investigation identifying exactly where the problem lays. In order to assist you best under these circumstances we request that you provide us with the following information.

### Hardware:

- Logger chassis serial number
- Serial number of all cards installed in the logger
- Description of the symptoms you are experiencing
- Photographs of the equipment in question

This will enable us to determine what generation of hardware you are using so we can offer the correct solutions accordingly.

### Software:

- Fardux Software version
- MS Windows operating system
- Computer Specification
- Description of the symptoms you are experiencing
- Screen dumps showing evidence of the problem ( where possible )

**We may also request the following files to be sent to us although you should not send these to us unless we let you know that they are required.**

- Configuration (elf) file
- Event (evt) file
- Log files

This will enable us to replicate your setup exactly so we can offer a more rapid and precise response.

For frequently asked questions , please follow the link:

<http://www.fardux.co.uk/faq.htm>