



PLC & SCADA
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Newsletter

Gas panels for biopharma plant

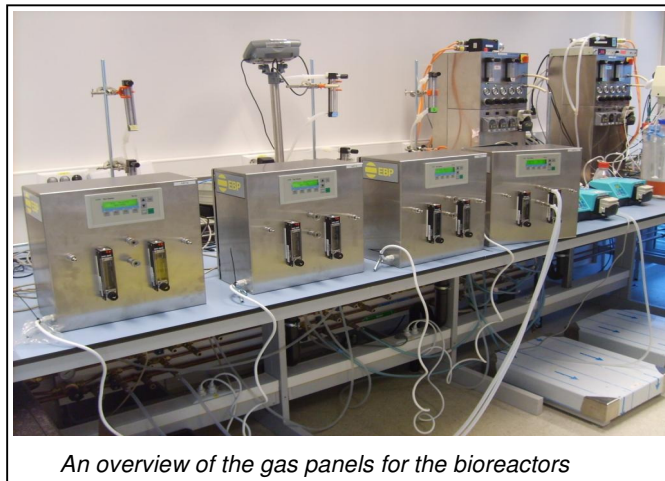
Genzyme is a pharmaceutical company of American origin, specialised in biopharma. One of its plants is located alongside the ringroad in Geel.

Often also nitrogen is added, in order to obtain a kind of synthetic air. Oxygen and nitrogen go in, substances converted in CO₂ come out.

The gas panels, used to control the gasses on lab-scale are made by EBP-automation :
A number of autonomous devices which inject different gasses into the bioreactor by means of adjustable pulse width modulation.

The control works with a Siemens compatible VIPA PLC. This is a mini PLC which is very cheap and very small, but it can be programmed with the Siemens Simatic software.

The advantage is, apart from price and size, that the programmers can do maintenance and failure analysis using the software already at hand.



An overview of the gas panels for the bioreactors

A bioreactor is like a tank in which the temperature is kept at 37 degrees Celsius.

Gasses and substances are then added to obtain an ideal growth of cells. For gasses, typically, oxygen needs to be added and CO₂ needs to be drained.



An inside view, with the mini PLC

GENZYME IS ACTIVE IN BIOPHARMA

GENZYME IS AMERICAN, LISTED COMPANY

BIOREACTORS OPERATE AT 37 DEGREES CELSIUS

GENZYME HAS FACILITIES IN BELGIUM AND FRANCE A.O.

EBP-AUTOMATION WORKED FOR GENZYME IN FRANCE AND BELGIUM