

Saltend digitalisation being rolled out across px Group



Alex Barker, px Group Orientation Technician

The successful digitalisation that has taken place at Saltend Chemicals Park is being rolled out across px Group.

Saltend has pioneered a number of innovations under px's "Digital Solutions" programme.

These enhancements have all been introduced to improve efficiency and safety, as well as save energy and promote accountability.

The programme is broken down into five categories:

- Digital operations – including the use of tablets so operators can access relevant, up-to-date data when out on site.
- Integrated information – using a new digital workflow and maintenance management system.
- Execution optimisation – including the use of a scheduling system to improve operational efficiency.
- Automation – cutting back on repetitive business tasks, such as some email processes and scheduled reports.
- Advanced analytics – including live operational displays to drive real-time business decisions.

Specific improvements include the recent introduction of a new automated visitor booking system.

The previous manual process, which included completing a

Word document and copying information onto a spreadsheet, took approximately 12-18 minutes of administration time for each of the 1,000-plus visitors to Saltend every month.

Now, the automated system takes just 45 seconds per visitor, significantly improving efficiency. It also provides full visibility so all relevant parties can see who is visiting, when, why, the time they check in and the time they leave.

Jake Woods, Digital Transformation Manager for px Group, has led the roll-out of technology at Saltend and has now been tasked with implementing the changes across the group.

He said: "We've done substantial work to see how we can apply new technology in what can be quite a traditional industry.

"It is about digitising all of our operations and maintenance procedures to improve efficiency and safety and enhance the customer experience.

"One significant improvement has been the introduction of live streaming of operations and maintenance data, meaning we are working with real-time information.

"We also now have our own bespoke scheduling software, which enables the user to instantly reschedule jobs by using a simple grab and drop system.

"Everything can effectively be done within one live system.

"These innovations were all first launched at Saltend and we're now looking at how they can be extended to the rest of the group."

Further developments at Saltend in the coming months are likely to include the introduction of helmet-mounted tablets for increased ease of use during operations, wall-mounted tablets to book meeting rooms, a desk booking app and a click and collect service in the canteen.

A site partner portal is also being developed for the new Saltend Chemicals Park website, which will enable all companies based on the park access to useful information and data.

The modernisation of the park will also include changing the current fleet of on-site diesel vehicles to electric buggies.

The new vehicles are being introduced for px Group's facilities management and maintenance teams, with a 12-bay electric charging car park outside the new Induction Centre.

The buggies will reduce both CO2 and maintenance costs and will be easier to drive on site.

Jake said: "These exciting developments will all contribute to Saltend being a truly modern, highly efficient chemicals park for the future."

Sodexo team recognised at national awards

The Sodexo team at Saltend Chemicals Park have been recognised nationally for their unwavering commitment throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.

Fully integrated facilities management service provider Sodexo holds its Star Awards each year to shine a light on teams across its 45,000 UK workforce that have over performed, including in business and industry, hospitality and events, education and healthcare.

Teams are nominated divisionally, with nominees then going forward to the national final.

This year, the team of over 90 at Saltend, who deliver administration, reception and switchboard, security, cleaning, catering and technical building services, were put forward for their exceptional level of operational efficiency during the national lockdowns. They were named as winners at an online ceremony hosted by television personality Carol Vorderman in Headingley.

General Services Manager John Marshall said: "I've worked for Sodexo for 27 years and this was definitely the highlight of my career to date. I was just so pleased for the team.

"They were recognised for their operational efficiency, outstanding work and commitment, and they really deserved it.

"We had extra duties and it was about providing added value for our client. We always try to be flexible and react positively and that's what we did."



Defibrillator delivered to Saltend

Saltend Chemicals Park now has a defibrillator on site.

The potentially life-saving equipment was delivered as part of Beverley and Holderness MP Graham Stuart's Community Access Defibrillators for East Yorkshire (CADEY) campaign.

Saltend was identified as a site that could benefit from a defibrillator because of the large number of people working on the park at any one time. Mr Stuart visited Saltend to hand over the defibrillator with representatives from HFR Solutions, which funded the device, and teams are now being trained how to use it.

In response to the donation by Mr Stuart and HFR Solutions, px Group, BP, Air Products, Vivergo and TUK teamed up to fund another five defibrillators to be donated to local communities. This was then match-funded by HFR Solutions, meaning local communities will benefit from 10 defibrillators in total.

Saltend in safe hands with HFR Solutions CIC

Specialist emergency response services, consultancy and workplace safety company HFR Solutions CIC now has a permanent presence on Saltend Chemicals Park.

The community interest company was originally set up by Humberside Fire and Rescue Service nine years ago to share the skills, values, knowledge and expertise of the blue light services with the commercial sector, with the overall purpose of helping make the region a safer place to live and work.

It has a deep understanding and knowledge of emergency response and incident management and specialises in fire safety, medical and first aid, working at height and in confined spaces and command and control training.

HFR Solutions operates across the Humber and works with companies on either a short-term or long-term basis.

It supports organisations short-term as required, providing advice and guidance about specific issues, or long-term with companies that would benefit from ongoing support.

Its long-term partners include Humberside Airport, British Steel and now Saltend Chemicals Park, after being brought in by px Group.

HFR Solutions has been working with px Group for 18 months and now has a presence on the park 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. It has four

teams of two operating round the clock, to ensure it always has personnel at Saltend.

They are available to help the response to any emergency incident that may occur, as well as provide training for all site partners.

Nick Granger, CEO of HFR Solutions, said: "We take the skills of the emergency services and deploy them in the business world. It's a very professional service and it replicates what the fire service does.

"We'll also provide the link between the site and the emergency services, which can sometimes be difficult in industry.

"We're working with the incident management teams (IMTs) and providing them with appropriate training. We'll also give advice if a partner is opening a new facility or if a new partner is joining the site.

"For a company like px Group – and the site partners – for which safety is of paramount importance, this is a crucial service."

HFR Solutions is also working closely with partners to



Chris Harrison, Head of Emergency Response and Emergency Rescue Team Provision at HFR Solutions.

establish new site-wide emergency response protocols and procedures.

"It's going really well and we've had fantastic support from px and the site partners," said Nick.

"It's a journey that will take time but everyone has been brilliant with us. It was px Group who engaged with us and brought us onto the site but we are here for everybody."

HFR Solutions' remit also extends beyond the site and into the local community.

Chris Harrison, Head of Emergency Response and Emergency Rescue Team Provision, said: "We are working to make a difference to the local area, as well as the site.

"We'll be getting out to schools and community groups to deliver home safety training, as well as the work safety training we are providing on site."

Score Group extends lease



Score Group's facility at Saltend.

Engineering specialist Score Group has extended its lease at Saltend Chemicals Park for a further seven years.

Score moved onto the park over two years ago to support its valve maintenance and on-site services operations in the area.

The extension of its lease represents the company's commitment to developing closer working relationships with its customers and site partners.

Three full-time staff and two apprentices, who attend Hull College, are based at Score's Saltend facility, which offers full customer support services.

Thomas Tattersall, Score Operations Manager for the UK and Ireland, said: "This is very exciting for Score and renewing the lease at Saltend Chemical Park cements our presence in the Hull and Humber region.

"I've been encouraged by the positive feedback and support that we have received from our customers and the team at px Group.

"As we aim to develop new opportunities for our on-site and valve maintenance services, particularly around the energy transition, a continued local presence means improved support for our customers."

IRISNDT and Wika Instruments move in

Two more companies have moved on to Saltend Chemicals Park.

Inspection and testing services company IRISNDT and Wika Instruments UK, a leading instrumentation manufacturer, are the latest organisations to commit to the park.



Lee Richardson, Chartered Engineer and Director at IRISNDT.

IRISNDT has relocated from its local headquarters in nearby Hedon, which was established in 1982, to the Abadan building.

Lee Richardson, Chartered Engineer and Director at IRISNDT, said: "IRISNDT are really pleased to move our Hull operation to the chemicals park.

"There are exciting times ahead with the success of the Zero Carbon Humber (ZCH) bid and the Hydrogen to Humber (H2H) project, which will enable IRISNDT to utilise our locally based expertise and support all the partners on and

around the park in the many different renewable energy schemes planned."

Wika Instruments has opened a new sales office in building SO39 and will also have a mobile exhibition and training vehicle on site on October 6 showcasing its range of pressure, temperature, level, flow and related calibration instruments, solutions and services. There will also be a number of application experts onsite to assist with any questions that you may have.

Sales Manager Bernard Cardozo said: "It's important for Wika to keep close to our customers so we can support their needs, specifically in the fields of chemical, petrochemical and the renewable energy sector.

"This move allows us to do that and we are delighted to be on the park."

Steve Farniss, Commercial Manager for px Group, said: "It's great to have welcomed two more partners on site.

"It's vital that any company that joins the park complements and benefits all of our site partners – and IRISNDT and Wika Instruments both do exactly that."



Bernard Cardozo, Sales Manager at Wika Instruments.