

Rockwell Automation and Stratus Power Rapid Deployment of Industry 4.0 Process Architectures with PlantPax® 5.0 Running on ztC™ Edge

2020-11-16

“Solution in a Box” enables operations teams and systems integrators to accelerate and scale multisite deployments at edge locations

MAYNARD, Mass. — November 16, 2020 — **Stratus Technologies**, a global leader in simplified, protected, autonomous Edge Computing platforms, today announced a “Solution in a Box” process control architecture for fast, easy deployment at edge locations that require 2,000 I/O’s or less. The solution runs Rockwell Automation PlantPax 5.0 software on Stratus ztC Edge, performance tested, characterized, and validated by Stratus and Rockwell Automation, to ensure reliable, rapid deployment by operations teams and systems integrators using a single industrial-grade, panel-mounted Edge Computing device.

FASTER DEPLOYMENT IN MORE
LOCATIONS WITH PLANTPAX
SOLUTION IN A BOX

“Whether it’s control in Water and Wastewater management, Machine Builders innovating for their customers, or managing remote assets in Oil & Gas, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to achieving operational excellence. Enterprises require plant-wide data and control solutions with high availability that can both scale up and scale down based on the use case and location, while being cost effective and easy to implement,” said Dave Rapini, Business Manager for PlantPax at Rockwell Automation.

The ability to bring mission-critical applications to where they're needed most via Edge Computing delivers the scale and real-time data acquisition for operational excellence. Stratus' simple, protected, and automated platform with fault tolerance and zero-touch operation is powering the disaggregation of large process architectures, traditionally deployed at level 3 and 4 of the Purdue model. The combined Stratus and Rockwell Automation "Solution in a Box" architecture provides a flexible approach to scale Industry 4.0 capabilities across a range of environments that were not previously possible.

THE PLANTPAX 5.0 AND ZTC EDGE
SOLUTION IN A BOX
ARCHITECTURE

PlantPax is a plant wide distributed control system (DCS) that utilizes a common automation platform to seamlessly integrate both process and discrete control as well as plant-wide information. Version 5.0 improves the availability of system assets that drive compliance in regulated industries and enables analytics at all enterprise levels. Intuitive workflows and the use of industry-leading cybersecurity standards help teams design, deploy, and support a DCS infrastructure to get to market faster to improve performance and profitability.

ztC Edge is an industrial-grade **Edge Computing** platform that offers built-in redundancy to eliminate unplanned downtime and meets Class 1 Division 2 requirements to operate in hazardous environments. While meeting standard IT performance and security requirements, ztC Edge is simple to deploy, protected from interruptions and threats, and operates autonomously. The zero-touch Edge Computing platform can be quickly installed at a single location or across multiple locations without the need for specialized skills or IT support.

SCALABLE AND PLUG-N-PLAY FOR
OT INFRASTRUCTURE

Craig Resnick, Vice President, ARC Advisory Group said, "Companies are looking increasingly for scalable edge solutions that adapt easily to their existing assets and OT infrastructure and help them achieve the flexibility, real-time visibility, operational excellence and operational resilience needed to sustain their businesses in a world where often the only certainty is uncertainty."

"From an implementation standpoint, the Stratus and Rockwell Automation 'Solution in a Box' process control architecture not only addresses those market demands for industries, such as food & beverage, pharmaceutical, and life sciences, but also does so in plug-n-play fashion that is well suited for distributors and channel partners to effectively sell and support," Mr. Resnick continued.

Frank Hill, Director of Rockwell Partnership at Stratus said, “ztC Edge’s redundancy at the compute level matched with PlantPAx DCS redundancy at the control level is a formidable combination for downtime prevention for mission-critical applications. By partnering with Rockwell Automation to characterize this joint solution, we’re delivering a massive leap forward for operations and integrators.”

Mr. Hill added, “With ztC Edge’s industrial-grade design, teams can now install redundant, virtualized Edge Computing on the DIN rail in the same cabinet as the PlantPAx DCS controllers, even in harsh environments. In addition, ztC Edge’s built-in virtualization allows users to integrate multiple solutions – PlantPAx applications and Rockwell’s ThinManager that previously required multiple computers – into a single platform which delivers enormous savings for engineering, operations, and maintenance.”

ARCHITECTURE DETAILS

The tested Solution-in-a-Box architecture includes:

- Rockwell Automation PASS-Consolidated Image
 - PASS (Process Automation System Server) – **FactoryTalk View**
 - FactoryTalk **AssetCentre**
 - FactoryTalk **Historian**
 - FactoryTalk VantagePoint
- Rockwell Automation Application Server -OWS – ThinManager remote desktop server (RDS) for remote, mobile, and tablet access
- Stratus ztC Edge 110i (single system with a redundant option) – tested in fault-tolerant and high availability modes

WORKLOAD SPECIFICATIONS

Based on the joint Stratus and Rockwell Automation characterization, the solution supports environments up to:

- Up to 2,000 I/O points
- Up to 5 Redundant Logix Controllers
- Up to 10 clients
- Up to 5,000 historian tags

For more information, view the Rockwell Automation **PlantPAx Selection Guide**

PRICING AND AVAILABILITY

Stratus ztC Edge and Rockwell PlantPAx 5.0, including PASS-C, are available now globally.

For pricing and Solution in a Box development, **contact a Stratus distributor.**

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- **Stratus ztC Edge**
- **Stratus and Rockwell Automation's Connected Enterprise**
- **Rockwell Automation PlantPAx 5.0**
- **Rockwell Sizing Estimator**

ABOUT STRATUS

For leaders digitally transforming their operations in order to drive predictable, peak performance with minimal risk, Stratus ensures the continuous availability of business-critical applications by delivering zero-touch Edge Computing platforms that are simple to deploy and maintain, protected from interruptions and threats, and autonomous. For 40 years, we have provided reliable and redundant zero-touch computing, enabling global Fortune 500 companies and small-to-medium sized businesses to securely and remotely turn data into actionable intelligence at the Edge, cloud and data center – driving uptime and efficiency. For more information, please visit www.stratus.com or follow on Twitter [@StratusAlwaysOn](https://twitter.com/StratusAlwaysOn) and LinkedIn [@StratusTechnologies](https://www.linkedin.com/company/stratus-technologies)

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