

Can LogMate be used for batch variance reviews?

Something went wrong with that last batch. But how wrong? Do you scrap it or ship it? If you ship it, do you have adequate records to support your decision?

In this situation, batch manufacturers typically have to gather isolated pieces of information, historian records, alarm history, operator logs, and sit down for the time consuming process of determining what went wrong and whether production variables went out of bounds far enough to scrap the batch. New technologies allow the automatic merging of alarm, event, and historian data to drastically reduce variance review times by better displaying relevant data and by concentrating data into one interface.

The LogMate TRAC module is an OPC-HDA client capable of displaying trends of alarms and events collected into a LogMate database along with trends from a data historian. All can be combined on the same interface for the purpose of accelerated batch review. Using TRAC, batch manufacturers have online, browser-based access to a reproduction of exactly what happened during the process in question. From a single screen you can see alarm trips, operator actions, and the actual instrument readings from the same unit. TRAC can also be used as an alarm performance dashboard, helping you track ongoing alarm rates and progress in resolving operations issues.

Batch review times are reduced and accuracy is increased, turning batches around more quickly and keeping personnel on task rather than in the conference room.