LEADERSHIP IN AUTOMATION 2011

FIRST TEAM HONOREES

BY **GARY MINTCHELL,** *AUTOMATION WORLD* CO-FOUNDER AND EDITOR IN CHIEF

Automation World reports on who readers partner with to implement automation projects and improve their companies' bottom lines. This new, annual survey helps you know who your peers have chosen as their "first team" suppliers.

It's human nature to go with whom you know, but if your project suddenly requires something new, or your vendor's service has changed for the worse and you're ready to consider an alternative, you need a short list. *Automation World* has shied away from the various "choice" awards programs since our founding in 2003. However, curiosity grew during 2010 from both the reader and supplier communities about which companies readers would choose to be on their "First Team" when choosing partners for automaton projects.

We cover both factory automation and process automation. Within those broad categories, we cover products ranging from control components to complete control and automation systems to manufacturing management software. *Automation World* readers come from the ranks of engineering, management, operations and information technology. Given this comprehensive coverage, the list of potential categories for First Team

partners is quite large. The results are a short list of companies whom your peers go to first when they're looking for innovative solutions to their automation problems.

Unaided recall
The Web-based survey was constructed so that readers were not prompted with any pre-selected companies. The downside of this totally open survey is that we had a number of people who still think there are companies named Allen-Bradley, Bailey and Modicon, for example. We linked those brands to the companies that own them now.

The other challenging thing—something I discovered when I made the transition from industry to publishing—centers on product category names. What we in publishing call certain technologies does not always coincide with names common in the field. With several hundred responses and nearly 50 categories, it was an interesting intellectual exercise to sort the responses. One other interesting item is that no suppliers tried to pad the voting—fewer than 0.5 percent of the total

voters, to the best I could figure out, were from vendor companies.

Leadership in Automation
Vendors were allowed to participate in *Automation World*'s Leadership in Automation Profiles Special Section (page 61), which is a compilation of formatted information that can help you know more about companies you're not familiar with. Profiles were available online in 2011, and those that appear in this issue will remain online throughout 2012 to aid and inform you for next year's survey. A company listed here as a 2011 First Team member may have a profile in that section, so you can learn more about them immediately.

We had a satisfyingly large response to the request for input. Since there are so many categories, it did require a time commitment from those who responded. But watch for emails coming later in 2012 so that you, too, can participate in next year's survey. It will be interesting to see what companies rise to First Team status next year. And if there is a category or company you think was missed, let me know. **aw**

2011 FIRST TEAM HONOREES

Advanced Process Control
ABB
Emerson Process Management
Honeywell Process Solutions
Invensys Operations Management
Yokogawa

Alarm Management Software
ABB
Emerson Process Management
Honeywell Process Solutions
PAS

Analytic Instruments
ABB
Emerson Process Management
Endress + Hauser
Yokogawa

Asset Management / Optimization Software
ABB
Emerson Process Management
Invensys Operations Management
Yokogawa

Batch Control
ABB
Emerson Process Management
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry

Connectivity Components
Phoenix Contact
ProSoft Technology
Wago

Continuous Process Control
ABB
Emerson Process Management
Honeywell Process Solutions

Control Valves
Dresser Masoneilan
Emerson Process Management

Data Acquisition Hardware
National Instruments
Red Lion Controls
Sixnet

Discrete Sensing
Banner Engineering
Omron Industrial Automation
Turk

Enclosures
Hoffman, a Pentair Company
Rittal

Energy Management Software
ABB
GE Intelligent Platforms
Schneider Electric
Siemens Industry
Powergate LLC/Traco Power

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2011
FIRST TEAM HONOREES

Flow Measurement

Emerson Process Management
Endress + Hauser
Flowserve
Omega Engineering

HMI Hardware

Invensys Operations Management
Mitsubishi Electric Automation
National Instruments
Pro-face America
Rockwell Automation
Schneider Electric
Siemens Industry

HMI iPad Apps

Advantech
Invensys Operations Management
National Instruments
Siemens PLM

HMI Software

Invensys Operations Management
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry

HMI Mobile

Honeywell Process Solutions
Invensys Operations Management
National Instruments

Hydraulic Motion

Bosch Rexroth
Parker Hannifin

Industrial PC (IPC)

Advantech
Beckhoff Automation
Pro-face America

Information Management

Inductive Automation
Kepware
Moxa
Online Development

Level Measurement

ABB
Emerson Process Management
Endress + Hauser
Omega Engineering

Loop Tuning Software

Emerson Process Management
Expertune
Honeywell Process Solutions
Rockwell Automation

Machine Controllers

B&R Industrial Automation
Beckoff Automation
Mitsubishi Electric Automation
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry

Machine Safety Controllers

B&R Industrial Automation
Beckhoff Automation
Pilz
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry

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Machine Vision

Banner Engineering
Cognex
Sick

Manufacturing Execution Software

ABB
Emerson Process Management
Invensys Operations Management
Rockwell Automation

Motion Control Drives

Bosch Rexroth
Kollmorgen
Lenze
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry
Yaskawa

Motion Control Systems

B&R Industrial Automation
Beckhoff Automation
Bosch Rexroth
Mitsubishi Electric Automation
National Instruments
Rockwell Automation

Motors – AC

ABB
Siemens Industry

Motors – DC

ABB
Siemens Industry

Motors – Servos

ABB
Siemens Industry

Networking Components – Ethernet

Belden
Cisco Systems
Hilscher
Moxa
N-Tron

Networking Components – Wired

Belden
Phoenix Contact

Networking Components – Wireless

Aaxeon
Cisco Systems
Moxa
N-Tron

Pneumatics

Festo
Numatics
Parker Hannifin

Power Conditioning and Protection

ABB
Emerson/SolaHD
Schneider Electric
Siemens Industry
Powergate LLC/Traco Power

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Pressure Sensors and Transmitters

Automation Direct
Emerson Process Management
Endress + Hauser
Omega Engineering
Yokogawa

Process Safety

ABB
Emerson Process Management
Invensys Operations Management
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry
Yokogawa

Programmable Automation Controllers

Automation Direct
National Instruments
Opto 22
Phoenix Contact

Programmable Logic Controllers

Automation Direct
Rockwell Automation
Schneider Electric
Siemens Industry

Robotics

ABB Robotics
FANUC Robotics
Festo

SCADA

GE Intelligent Platforms
Inductive Automation
Invensys Operations Management
Rockwell Automation
Schneider Electric

Simulation Software

Emerson Process Management
Honeywell Process Solutions
Invensys Operations Management

Standard Control Products

Allied Electronics
c3controls
IDEC

Temperature Sensors and Transmitters

Automation Direct
Emerson Process Management
Endress + Hauser
Omega Engineering
Yokogawa

Variable Frequency Drives

ABB
Rockwell Automation
Siemens Industry

Wireless Sensor Network Components

ABB
Emerson Process Management
Endress + Hauser
Honeywell Process Solutions
ProSoft Technology

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