Cardiff, June 18, 2018

International knowledge exchange:

COPA-DATA sent invitations to visit Vienna for the Global Partner Academy

Software manufacturer COPA-DATA invited its global partner companies to Vienna from June 13th to 14th for an interactive discussion on the possible applications of its automation software, zenon. The agenda for the Global Partner Academy 2018 included presentations and in-depth workshops with experts, practical reference visits and international networking under the event slogan "World Cup of Automation".

This year's COPA-DATA Global Partner Academy (GPA) in Vienna had 215 participants representing 98 companies from 30 countries. The third-annual GPA, the worldwide rendezvous for members of the COPA-DATA partner community, brought together twice as many people as it did in 2016. Johannes Petrowisch, Head of Corporate Partnerships at COPA-DATA, was delighted by this growth, commenting: "This GPA shows the continuous growth trajectory that we and our partners are experiencing worldwide. It is a strong sign that our zenon software is delighting so many experts throughout the world and that automation is advancing in harmony with digitalization. We would like to warmly thank all participants."

Promoting dialogue via digitalization

One highlight was an insight provided by Ulrike Huemer, lawyer and CIO of the city of Vienna, into city development and planning for one of Europe's largest and, at the same time, most liveable city regions. The city of Vienna has already been following a digital agenda for increasing transparency and decreasing bureaucracy for its citizens for several years now. In the lawyer's speech, she focused on a key challenge for the coming years: interlinking all social sectors that are involved in the digital transformation. International participants at GPA 2018 agreed with her conclusion that only through open discussion and dialogue between economy, industry, society and public authorities can the advantages of digitalization take effect.

Global insights with zenon

Furthermore, COPA-DATA partner companies obtained extensive know-how on the new zenon 8.00 and zenon Analyzer 3.20 software versions. Example applications from around the world underscored the variety of solutions that can be implemented with zenon – from ergonomic human-machine interfaces and powerful control stations to cloud-connected production analyses across different locations. GPA participants benefitted both from face-to-face conversations with COPA-DATA technology experts and in-depth workshops on technical and sales topics. The agenda was rounded off by two reference visits. In the energy distribution sector, participants at Wiener Netz's premises were able to get an idea of how 46 transformer stations and a 28,000 km distribution network provide energy to the city of Vienna and other parts of Austria. In the pilot factory for Industry 4.0, which was initiated by TU Wien, the Technical University of Vienna, GPA 2018 participants gained insights into the future of industrial production with a focus on smart, cyber-physical production systems.

Captions:

COPA-DATA\_Global-Partner-Academy\_2018\_Delegation\_UK.jpg: UK technical and sales team accompanying partners Roy Coleman and Lee Hancock of Applied Integration and Capula, respectfully.  
Photo credit: Stefanie Starz, [www.starz.at](http://www.starz.at)

On COPA-DATA

COPA-DATA is the technological leader for ergonomic and highly-dynamic process solutions. The company, founded in 1987, develops the software zenon for HMI/SCADA, Dynamic Production Reporting and integrated PLC systems at its headquarters in Austria. zenon is sold through its own offices in Europe, North America and Asia, as well as partners and distributors throughout the world. Customers benefit from local contact persons and local support thanks to a decentralized corporate structure. As an independent company, COPA-DATA can act quickly and flexibly, continues to set new standards in functionality and ease of use and leads the market trends. Around 135,000 installed systems worldwide provide companies in the Food & Beverage, Energy & Infrastructure, Automotive and Pharmaceutical sectors with new scope for efficient automation.

On the COPA-DATA Partner Community

COPA-DATA, as an international software manufacturer, consistently works together with competent and excellently trained partners. The worldwide network of certified specialists – system integrators, mechanical engineering companies/OEMs, educational institutions and research facilities – strives for outstanding performance in the world of automation. In an open exchange of knowledge and capabilities, competence and expertise in the fields of product & technology and sales & marketing are built upon and developed further. Clearly defined guidelines guarantee fair, long-term partnerships. Depending on their interests and objectives, COPA-DATA partners operate at one of the different partner levels – Registered, Qualified and Expert. Worldwide, they are committed to users in order to promote the productivity and ergonomics of automation projects.

On zenon

zenon is a software system from COPA-DATA for industrial automation and the energy industry. Machines and equipment are controlled, monitored and optimized. zenon’s particular strength is open and reliable communication in heterogeneous production facilities. Open interfaces and over 300 native drivers and communication protocols support the horizontal and vertical integration. This allows for continuous implementation of the Industrial IoT and the Smart Factory. Projects with zenon are highly scalable.  
zenon is ergonomic, both for the engineer and for the end user. The engineering environment is flexible and can be used for a wide range of applications. The principle of “setting parameters instead of programming” helps engineers to configure projects quickly and without errors. Complex functions for comprehensive projects are supplied out-of-the-box to create intuitive and robust applications. Users can thereby contribute to increased flexibility and efficiency with zenon.

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