

Process optimization as
a GEA Service.

CONSTANTLY
IMPROVING

GEA OptiPartner User Interface

Intuitive interface to simplify process optimization

GEA OptiPartner User Interface

GEA OptiPartner intuitive User Interface (UI) improves the user experience for operators while increasing efficiency for manufacturers.

The OptiPartner is an autopilot for processing lines. In its latest form, OptiPartner has taken this role to its ultimate extreme with the ability to identify and track the optimum production point in any condition and adjust itself to move ever closer to it.

OptiPartner Customers feedback at a glance

- Process stability improvement
- Increasing plant availability
- Improving key performance indicators
- Reducing the impact of variable operator skills
- Fail-safe operation even with semi-skilled staff

Operator-friendly user interface

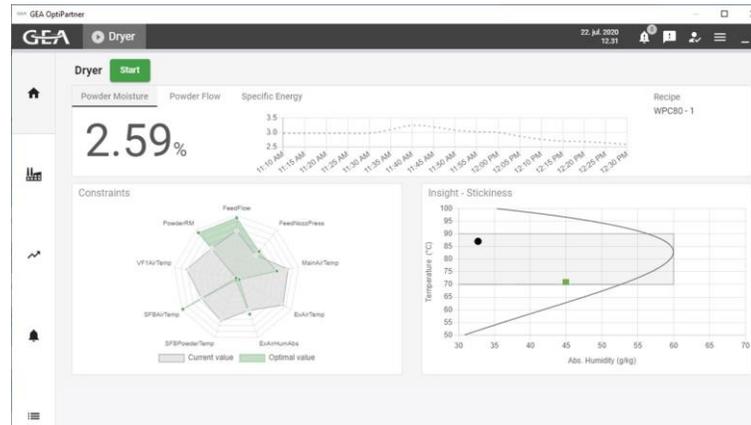
Having an intuitive user interface (UI) that speaks to the operator in the simplest possible way is fundamental. This avoids the waste of operator time on interpreting complex and unnecessary information and allows the operator to focus clearly on the key performance indicators for each production unit. The principle behind the interface is familiar to all users of modern computer software and Apps. The user is presented only with the primary information that informs the decisions that need to be taken. It is of no consequence to the user how the autopilot works, it just matters that it does. The user also needs to have the key information in plain view to provide confidence that all is well.

Optimum point at first sight

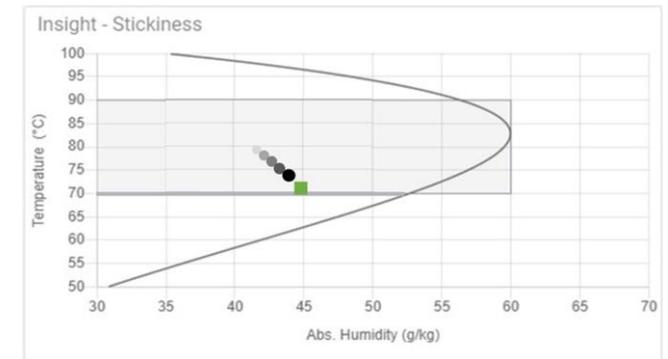
GEA OptiPartner intuitive User Interface (UI) improves the user experience for operators while increasing efficiency for manufacturers.

Simplicity and operator friendliness are key within the design with self-explanatory, intuitive controls. It cuts through all the additional, non-vital information to highlight the statistics that are important such as: production flow rate, end product quality and energy consumption. There is a simple graphical interpretation of what the system has planned to adjust in the process - including the feed flow rate, the temperatures, pressures, etc. – showing how they compare with the optimum levels.

It is not about providing as much information as you can about what's happening within the mathematical algorithm as this often gets in the way of the critical information. It's much more efficient to put the crucial information clearly in full view (home screen) and leave the rest of the data accessible only if required.



The home screen also shows a visual representation of the sweet spot compared with the actual performance and its historical development towards the optimum position.



Not only do we know where your optimum point is, we also take you there. There is little for the operator to do other than make sure the system is switched on. Then it just runs. The operator can stop the system at any time by simply hitting the 'stop' button and taking back manual control. It's just like a cruise control on a car.

Quantify the benefits of an intuitive user interface



Get key data
at a glance

The UI takes advantage of high-level graphics to improve communication to the operator. Therefore, the UI transforms classical advanced process control status into a simple set of graphics that are easy for production staff to interpret.



Map the optimum vs.
actual operation
point

Using industry know-how, the GEA system uses a graphical representation of the operation window, e.g. a stickiness curve for a spray dryer to map the optimum vs. actual operation point, and add new insight on how the plant is running.



Improve Operator –
Management
communication

Process KPIs, being most important for a production line, are made clear to the operator. This creates a common language of performance between operation and management level for efficiency of the plant.



Add new product
recipes easily

The system is engineered with a set of system recipes for a given plant. The interface allows operation managers to generate new plant recipes from the system recipes to increase the utilization of the optimizer in producing new products.



Empower staff
resources

Operators are more motivated as they have more accurate and effective control of the processes for which they are responsible. This leads to better job satisfaction, lower staff turnover and improved efficiency.

GEA Expertise

Get GEA expertise for your optimization challenge

What's important about the OptiPartner, and its innovative interface, is the GEA pedigree that goes behind it. Many advanced control systems use only mathematical input/output modelling to establish what is happening and to predict what is likely to happen in the future. But at GEA, teams of process designers, process simulation experts and optimization teams are all together in a collaborative environment, creating a more holistic view to the optimization challenge. Its engineers speak the same language as the operators and can use their many years of process engineering knowledge to build a system that is more in tune with the whole line.

Minimal investment

Achieving process optimization can be an expensive business. As technology develops it is possible for manufacturers to fall behind quickly as their plant ages. But OptiPartner can be easily retrofit to a plant's existing installed base to maximize its potential and extend its productive life.

Currently OptiPartner can be configured for dairy power operations and for coffee plants and breweries. Further applications will become available soon.

GEA Service – For your continued success





We live our values.

Excellence • Passion • Integrity • Responsibility • GEA-versity

GEA is one of the largest technology suppliers for food processing and a wide range of other industries. The global group specializes in machinery, plants, as well as process technology and components. GEA provides sustainable solutions for sophisticated production processes in diverse end-user markets and offers a comprehensive service portfolio.

The company is listed on the German MDAX (G1A, WKN 660 200), the STOXX® Europe 600 Index and selected MSCI Global Sustainability Indexes.

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