Customized Service and Programming for Industrial Processes:

CoorsTek, a porcelain processor in Golden CO, faced an emergency when they had to shut down the entire plant due to the failure of a VFD and the associated Data Highway network. CoorsTek asked Timber Line to design and implement a solution that would both alleviate the emergency and serve as a permanent upgrade to the control network.

Porcelain processing creates a liquid waste stream that includes "slip", which is the suspended porcelain solids. To reclaim the slip from the waste stream, the plant was designed with (3) Data Highway enabled VFDs to control the speeds of the sump pump, the clarifier and the sludge mixer. When the sump pump VFD and the associated Data Highway signaling failed, Timber Line set to work to provide a 2-day solution.

Data Highway messaging is considered obsolete for new equipment. Timber Line provided new Ethernet-enabled VFDs and Ethernet switches to replace the obsolete equipment, and implemented control communication statements to provide "Single-Drive Mode" instead of "Multi-Drive Mode". This solved the immediate problem and provided the long term benefits of Ethernet communications and separate IP addresses for individual control of each VFD.

Timber Line and CoorsTek have continued to collaborate on upgrades across the plant, including computer, ventilation and spray-dryer control upgrades. Timber Line understands that time **IS** money on any industrial process line, and provides proactive and timely upgrades to solve current problems and reduce future down-time.

