

February, 2018

Timber Line Tidbits

Report From The Road Warriors

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About Us

Our Mission:
To find opportunities to delight our peers and customers by making the complex simple.

High Pump Runtime Hours in the High Country
By Dave Scoles,
Programmer



I received a call from one of my customers, a high-country ski town water department. They reported an anomaly with the pumps in the Peabody Pump Station. The initial description of the problem centered on an increased number of pumping hours. When filling out monthly reports the operators noticed the lead pump was running longer than previous months, but the effluent flow total was about the same. The operators called me because they thought it was an electrical or programming problem.

During an on-site inspection, I ruled out any obvious electrical problem by doing a visual inspection and checking electrical readings with my multi-meter. Programming issues were ruled out since the pump station had been running correctly for many years and no recent changes had been made. (Generally, if operational function suddenly changes it is RARELY due to programming unless there have been recent changes to the program!)

The water district manager and I started looking for possible mechanical issues, specifically with the valves. Sure enough, we found one valve was not closing completely and allowing flow to recirculate. Once we exercised the valve and got it to travel completely shut, the problem was resolved. Sometimes it takes both “big picture” and detailed diagnostics to resolve a problem!

Fun Facts About the Author: *Dave Scoles has been with*

Timber Line since 2009 and resides near Silverthorne, CO. Dave enjoys spending time with family and friends, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and winter sports. When Dave is traveling in Colorado and Wyoming he often finds a quiet spot to fly fish.

Kim's Corner



Timber Line is expanding! We have recently rented a small warehouse about one block away. This facility will allow our panel fabrication business to grow and will provide easier access for the semi-trucks that keep our goods moving in and out. Kurt has been busy wiring the new building for power and communications. We hope to move the fabrication shop sometime in February. Thank you to all of our customers for your panel fabrication business. Please recommend us to any of your associates who need UL508A labeled control panels.

Tech Talk

More reasons NOT to use your SCADA computer to access the web.

In the last year we have had three customers with severely infected computers. **Internet access to your SCADA machine should ONLY be used for remote log in.** Some of the viruses come from a specific source such as using the SCADA computer to download “free” software. Others come from accessing gaming or pornography sites or using the SCADA computer to read emails and open infected attachments. Be aware that viruses and ransomware can also be pushed to your computer. An IT consultant can help you to turn off unused ports to reduce this hazard. Creating robust usernames and passwords with irregular upper case letters, a symbol and numbers will definitely help with security. Additional firewalls can also be added to help keep out hackers and viruses. Keep in mind that Timber Line does not install anti-virus software on the SCADA computer initially because it needs an antivirus subscription and regular maintenance provided by the end user.

DO NOT accept upgrade offers for Window’s Operating Systems or Microsoft Office! Most SCADA computers have the automatic Windows upgrades turned off, but the Office upgrades are still a hazard and may cause your reports to fail. Please call us with any questions regarding MS upgrades.

Celebrations

Timber Line Turns 30!

Founded in 1987 by Kurt Evezich (pictured), TLECC's original mission

was to provide instrumentation and control field service to rural water and sanitation districts.

Timber Line has grown substantially, serving many water districts and industrial companies. Timber Line has been proudly serving the community for 30 years.



Kurt Evezich, Founder (left) pictured with Service Technician Lee Smith who is celebrating 28 years of service with TLECC.



In celebration of Timber Line's 30th anniversary, employees and their families gathered for an afternoon picnic at Bear Creek Lake Park - Lakewood CO on July 14, 2017.

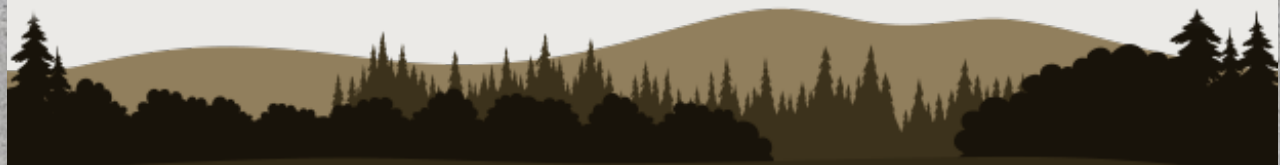
New Arrivals! Congratulations to....

Bill Falkenstein, TLECC Project Manager, who welcomed baby girl Lydia Jeanne in July 2017.

Craig Balkin, SCADA Programmer, who welcomed baby girl Shulie Ruth in November 2017.

Overstock Sale

Allen Bradley SLC500 input and output modules, power supplies, slot fillers and data access module; Motorola Moscad CPUs, input and output module and some used radios; Motorola Moscad L CPUs, input and output modules and battery brackets. (Please call for pricing)



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