

SOLUTION PROFILE

Alarm Management Solutions

Autopro Automation Consultants Ltd. provides complete Alarm Management Solutions, from initial roadmap design and benchmark assessments, to alarm management program audits, to ongoing operational alarm rationalization support. We design and implement alarm management programs that help our industrial clients ensure safe and reliable operations at their facilities.

The Challenge

For most industrial facilities, control system alarms are the primary means of letting the operator know something is wrong. So what happens when that alarm system is performing in a way that does more to hinder the operator than help? The problem seems overwhelming, and the alarms that were assumed to be providing risk protection are actually doing the opposite. Results can include unplanned shutdowns, damage to critical equipment, sub-optimal operations, and potentially even a safety incident.

Facilities with legacy control systems, and facilities undergoing rapid and frequent expansion, are particularly at risk to alarm performance issues.

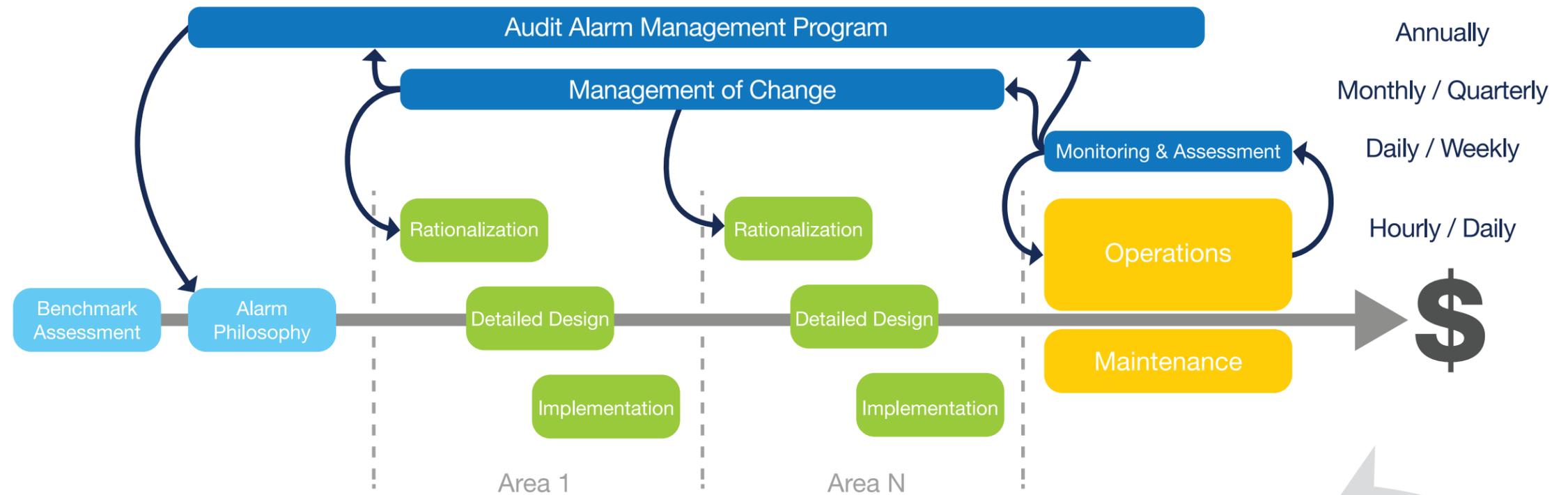
The Solution

Autopro consultants work closely with client stakeholders – Operations, Management, Engineering, and Maintenance – to design an alarm management program that is tailored to their particular needs and requirements.

- Some clients are just getting started on their alarm management journey, and we help them build a roadmap and set incremental goals.
- Some clients have implemented alarm management initiatives in the past that have now stalled, and we help them get back on track.
- Some clients have well-established alarm management programs with just a couple hurdles remaining, and we help take them to the next level.

Alarm Management Lifecycle Solutions

Autopro has many years of experience assisting clients design, implement, and execute their alarm management programs at both brownfield and greenfield facilities. We provide complete alarm management lifecycle solutions as well as a wide range of planning, assessment, and facilitation services to help our clients run successful alarm management programs at their facilities.



1 Benchmarking Performance

*Where are we? Where are we going?
How do we get there?*

Autopro performs a rapid and thorough benchmark assessment of current alarm system performance and supporting business workflow practices. This benchmark establishes the site's initial starting point on their alarm management journey. It also informs the path we help our clients outline to achieve their business objectives.

The end goal is an alarm system that supports the process operator at all times, through all stages of operations. Autopro also helps establish incremental milestones that enable clients to demonstrate success to their internal stakeholders.

2 Moving Forward

*Are we going the right way?
Are we moving fast enough?*

Autopro employs a structured & phased approach to help drive incremental improvement in alarm system performance. We work closely with our clients to establish a path forward that maximizes their benefits and helps manage changes. Every client's alarm management situation and challenges are unique, and we tailor our approach to their particular requirements and business objectives.

Autopro's vendor-independent commitment enables our clients to draw on our knowledge of multiple vendors' technologies. We are uniquely positioned to help our clients select the best tools to meet their requirements, and then assist with implementing the alarm design work into their control systems.

3 Staying on Course

*Are we there yet? Where do we go now?
What's next?*

Autopro recognises that the key to alarm management success is laying a strong foundation of well-formed business workflow practices. Alarm management – when implemented well – becomes a standard part of the daily routine to ensure safe and reliable operations.

Once the initial benefits have been realized, there is still work to be done. We foster long-term partnerships with our clients to help them stay on course to meet their alarm management objectives. Periodic monitoring and assessment safeguards the significant improvements our clients have made, and makes certain the alarm system delivers on its promise – to support the operator in running a safe and reliable facility.

Alarm Management Services

Autopro provides a complete suite of alarm management services, including:

Philosophy

- Alarm Philosophy Document Development Workshops
- Alarm Philosophy Document Reviews

Identification

- Coordinate Alarm Candidate Reviews
- Document Potential Alarm Candidates

Rationalization

- Alarm Rationalization
- Bad Actor Rationalization
- Alarm Flood Analysis & Mitigation

Detailed Design

- Advanced Alarming Design
- HMI Design

Implementation

- Apply Alarm System Design to DCS / PLC / SCADA
- Vendor-Independent Expertise on Multiple Platforms

Operations

- Operator Refresher Training
- Business Workflow Practices

Maintenance

- Alarm System Planned Periodic Testing
- I&E Design for Repairs / Replacement

Monitoring & Assessment

- Periodic Alarm Performance Assessment
- Specific Actionable Recommendations

Management of Change

- Coordinate MOC Processes
- Operator Roll-Out Training
- Stakeholder Program Training

Audit & Assessment

- Benchmark Assessments
- Alarm Management Program Audits
- Regulatory Review Audits

About Autopro

Autopro Automation Consultants Ltd. is a professional engineering and integration firm that specializes in the design and implementation of high-value industrial automation solutions.

As Canada's largest vendor-independent integration company and one of the largest in North America, we provide a single source of expertise in all technologies that encompass industrial automation. Autopro was established in 1990 and has more than 200 employees in eight offices across Western Canada.

Autopro's vendor-independent status means we are knowledgeable in multiple vendor technologies. We provide unbiased recommendations that incorporate the best-fit solution for our clients' specific requirements, and implement the solution using existing software tools and equipment or the client's preferred toolset.

Autopro applies stringent project management processes and practices to each project we undertake, to ensure the projects meet all regulatory code requirements and client-defined success criteria.

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