Optimizing efficiency through digitalization in chemicals, petrochemicals and refining
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Exclusive Speaker Interview

Fuad Al-Ansari

VP Information Technology
(IT) Division
Takreer

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1. **What does the subject of digital transformation and IoT mean to you?**

    In today's world Digital transformation and IIoT is an essential part of any business and any field of operation that can't be dismissed nor be postponed due to its prevalence into all aspects of life.

2. **What's the greatest impact IoT, data analytics and AI will have on the industry? What lies ahead of operators and how will they adapt?**

    Data analytics and AI will be the competitive edge for any given industry and it's that factor of predicting the trend of the business just seconds, minutes or even days ahead of your competition.

3. **How do you see the role of the Industrial Internet of Things in refining, petrochemicals & chemicals? What are the key benefits and opportunities of using IIoT solutions in downstream operations?**

    IIoT will play an important role in all aspects of the refinery operations, the fact that you could obtain a total visibility of the operation in near real time is the greatest achievement of all.

4. **How will this paradigm shift affect talent in manufacturing & downstream industry overall?**

   The new generations of engineers and operators will have to adapt and focus on reading the trends and analytics out of the plant which will make them execute their decisions in a more efficient manner.

5. **What are the latest technology adoptions by downstream operators in Asia? Are there any success stories that other operators can learn from?**

   One of the best technology use cases in refineries is the Integrated Refinery Information Systems (IRIS) which I believe has been implemented in Reliance India and ADNOC Refining UAE.

6. **Will Artificial Intelligence replace humans working in oil and gas?**

   Never, yet it will enhance the efficiencies and decision making process drastically.

7. **What is the current state of cybersecurity preparedness across refining, petrochemicals and chemicals and how is the cybersecurity market set to evolve?**

   With the current tools in place the cybersecurity safeguards have reached an acceptable level but yet at the DCS and SCADA level more work needs to be done.

8. **Are manufacturers concerned about cybersecurity in their organization?**

   Yes, the more reliance you are on the IT systems in your operations the more prone you are to be targeted with the cybersecurity threats.

9. **What are the key technologies which your company would like to implement in the next 5 years? (for refiners, petrochemical & chemicals companies only)**

   Data Analytics on the operational data

10. **What are the current challenges and hurdles that affect the spread and deployment of the Internet of Things in your organization? (for refiners, petrochemical & chemicals companies only)**

    Management of Change.

11. What impact does Big Data have on operational efficiency and how is Big Data changing the industry?

Based on our experience the IRIS project will result in %40 reduction on operational load in the Supply Chain function.

12. With these radical changes looming what opportunities lie ahead for manufacturers?

An opportunity that manufacturers can look forward is enhanced efficiency within the business which will help the business grow.

13. What will the future workforce look like in the digital age?

Similar to 80s and 90s where internet and computers changed the working skills of the employees, the digital transformation would require major overhaul of operations workforce skills.

14. What will be the highlight of your presentation at Asian Downstream Summit 2018?

The highlight of my presentation will be on the visibility of operation's economics in near real time.