



# Orbis MES

by Ever.Ag

## Frequently Asked Questions

**It's time to make your plant systems talk to you.** If you were to ask it some of the questions we hear most often, here's what it would say about Orbis MES.

### Data Integration and Calculations

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#### WHAT TYPE OF AUTOMATION SYSTEMS CAN ORBIS INTEGRATE WITH?

Orbis can integrate with any system that provides an Open Platform Communication (OPC) interface. If an OPC interface is not available, we can address this at the design phase.

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#### WHAT TYPE OF INFORMATION SYSTEM CAN ORBIS INTEGRATE WITH?

Orbis can integrate with any system providing a file transfer, Application Program Interface (API), a web service, or other data acquisition methods.

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#### WHAT DATA POINTS OR OTHER INTERFACES DO YOU ESTABLISH?

The Orbis solution establishes data points such as input/output in the plant, including temperature, valves, pressures, and counts. Orbis interfaces to ERP, LIMS, EMS, Weighbridge/Scale, files (CSV), and databases.

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#### HOW IS REAL-TIME DATA COLLECTED FROM PLCS?

Real-time data is collected by OPC Communications using Kepware or Matrikon.

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#### HOW DOES IT TRACK AND TRACE WORK?

Each unit of operation and storage location creates batches and records in the process. Quality results are recorded within each batch. A log is created from a transfer every time a volume moves from one source to a destination. Orbis can then link all batches together to make a track and trace.

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#### WHAT CALCULATION DO YOU USE TO MEASURE MASS BALANCE?

We do a detailed analysis of each plant to determine the “right” method to measure. We balance a cheese plant differently from a fluid plant versus a large brewery. Mass balance is vital to plant operation, but we walk the entire plant, analyze what data is available at the weight and component level. We use this analysis to determine what will be completed immediately and in the future.



## Implementation

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### IS ORBIS IMPLEMENTED ON THE CLOUD OR ON-PREMISES?

Orbis operates on both cloud and on-premises.

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### WHAT KIND OF NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE IS NEEDED TO RUN THE SYSTEM?

Most up-to-date networks can support Orbis. We work with customers to ensure the Orbis implementation is optimized and does not impact operations.

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### WHAT RESOURCES FROM THE PLANT NEED TO BE INVOLVED IN AN ORBIS IMPLEMENTATION?

An automation team, Process/CI team, and the IT team are all involved in implementation. We also can provide a managed services option to augment your team so staffing shouldn't be a restriction.

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### HOW LONG WILL AN ORBIS IMPLEMENTATION TAKE?

A typical implementation takes 6-9 months, depending on the size of the plant.

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### CAN I SET UP PAPERLESS LOGS?

Orbis will initially set up the first logs, but you can train supervisor users to set up future logs.

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### HOW DO I ROLL OUT THE SYSTEM?

One option is a modular method that includes choosing the modules that address your requirements or specifications. A second method is a fully functional MES deployment incorporating all modules.

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## Return on Investment

### WHAT ROI CAN I ANTICIPATE FROM ORBIS AFTER ONE YEAR?

As with any project, ROI depends on the scope of the project. We find that customers typically achieve 100% ROI within six to 15 months after implementing Orbis. The average ROI is 12 months.

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### WHAT KIND OF ROI CAN I EXPECT FROM PAPERLESS FACTORY?

Some plants report a 20 percent reduction in the supervisor's administrative work. An easy ROI is factoring in the hours of filing, managing the paper trail, and reporting automation through historical data.

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### HOW DO I QUANTIFY THE ROI ON MY YIELD?

Yield is computed differently by industry and product type. Sometimes it's a simple calculation, for example - several finished goods vs. inputs but in our experience, there is much more to it. For instance, undergrade or off-spec products will incur a cost to rework or will need to sell at discounted pricing.

We work to understand all aspects of your plant and quantify the ROI appropriately for your unique operations. Our consultants can help your operations team identify and strategize how to make improvements. We aren't just a software solution. Instead, we are a team of process engineers, consultants, and software experts that take an in-depth look at the entire picture of your plant and process.

## Compliance

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### WILL THIS HELP ME COMPLY WITH GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS?

Yes. As part of our design, we understand what you need from an operation and regulatory perspective. For example, we help with government regulations through our automated data capture of recorder data. Also, our track and trace module has an audit function aligned with how government regulators like to see the data. It details all the process batches, collates processes, quality assurance, and paperless data into a single report stream. Orbis makes your job and that of the government regulator much more streamlined.

## About Orbis MES

Orbis MES optimizes food and beverage plant profitability by improving real-time visibility to the data that informs all of your critical decisions. Used worldwide by several of the biggest names in the industry, its robust capabilities to protect profitability, improve traceability, and help create reliable and sustainable operations.

## Our Customers



### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

Learn more by visiting: <http://www.ever.ag/Orbis-MES>  
Contact us at: [connections@Ever.Ag](mailto:connections@Ever.Ag)



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