

# Bedrock ICS Proxy Solution Helping Utility Transition Seamlessly to Modern, Cyber Secure Automation

BOSTON, MASS., UNITED STATES, August 11, 2021 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Bedrock Automation, maker of Bedrock OSA®, the world's most powerful and secure automation platform, has announced that a Colorado utility is transitioning legacy PLCs and RTUs to their intrinsically secure Bedrock OSA® (Open Secure Automation) platform. The transition is part of a multi-year automation upgrade plan, which utility management saw as an opportunity to deepen its cyber security protection while also modernizing its controls.

The logo for Bedrock Open Secure Automation. "BEDROCK" is in black, "OPEN SECURE AUTOMATION" is in red, and there is a registered trademark symbol (®) at the end of "BEDROCK".

**BEDROCK®**  
**OPEN SECURE AUTOMATION**

Bedrock Automation is the maker of Bedrock OSA®, the world's most powerful and secure industrial control system.

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*Russ Ropken, RSI Company*

“Like most other public utilities, we must adapt to an ever-changing world and that includes cyber security. We’ve always had robust physical security and required usernames and passwords for access to critical systems and controls, but we saw the world around us changing quickly. Many of today’s automation technologies are not as secure as they could be because they were developed long before security was a major issue in the industry. Most of the security added to them was an afterthought,” said Shay Geisler, I&C Administrator, ECCV Water & Sanitation District.

ECCV’s legacy control architecture involved SCADA software that is housed on a dedicated Windows desktop or server along with a communications driver, in this case, an OPC Server that speaks to the PLCs via legacy protocols. Each ECCV upgrade target was using two PLCs to concentrate field data for use by the plant SCADA system, which had also been upgraded to a more secure version.

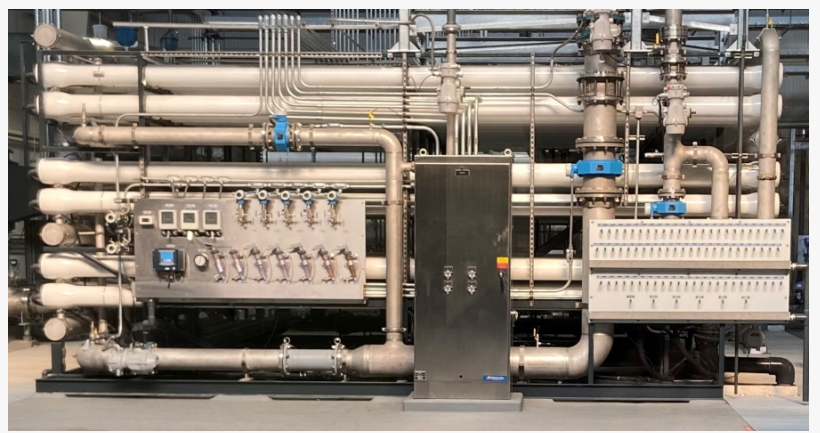
“We knew security could not be limited to the SCADA software only. There were too many

downstream systems and assets that, if left untouched, would present a huge vulnerability. We determined that the vast majority of these potential vulnerabilities could be solved by addressing the PLC and SCADA communications system,” said Geisler.

### Securing SCADA and control networks

Geisler and his team concluded that the most secure and cost-effective approach would be to connect the SCADA network and control networks

with a secure communications channel. Fully implementing this, however, would have required ripping and replacing their entire system immediately, which would have been costly and required significant disruption. Instead, working with automation supplier [Process Control Dynamics](#) and system consultant [RSI Company](#), they adopted a phased-in approach using secure Bedrock OSA® Remote control units as proxy servers to enable transition ultimately to a full Bedrock platform.



A Colorado utility is upgrading PLCs in this control room to modern, cyber secure automation, without disrupting operations

“We are slowly upgrading the remote sites that have been serviced by legacy data concentrators, one-by-one, as we convert each to use the secure Bedrock controller. The new controllers at the remote sites bypass the legacy concentrators and now report directly to the Bedrock proxy. Once all sites are converted, we will remove the legacy concentrators,” said Russ Ropken, with RSI Company, the system integrator who developed the architecture that enabled the seamless transition.

The ultimate result is secure, certificated communications from the SCADA software down to the Remote PLCs/RTU. The Bedrock OSA Remote proxy units will switch over to a peer-to-peer network of infinitely scalable secure Bedrock control units connected by an encrypted radio network.

ECCV already has field data running through 12 of its target sites, with some 74 left to go. For more details, including the architecture of each phase, [download the case history here](#).

### About Bedrock Automation

Bedrock Automation, established in San Jose, California and now based in the Boston, Massachusetts area, has developed the world’s most powerful and cyber secure automation platforms. Bedrock has assembled the latest technologies and talents from the automation, measurement, cyber security, and semiconductor industries to build unprecedented solutions

for ICS, Power and Flow based on three prime directives: simplicity, scalability, and security. The result is its award-winning Open Secure Automation (OSA®) platforms, which provide deeply embedded ICS cyber security and the highest levels of performance and reliability, at the lowest lifecycle costs. Build on Bedrock®!

For more information about Bedrock Automation visit [BedrockAutomation.com](https://BedrockAutomation.com), EMAIL [info@bedrockautomation.com](mailto:info@bedrockautomation.com) or call 1-(781) 821.0280.

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