PLANTFORMANCE CASE STUDY · MANAGED IGNITION

Isolated development servers with no change in operating costs

A multi-site industrial manufacturer · Manufacturing

A manufacturer wanted to separate Ignition development from production across 90 factories. Plantformance turned the spare FactoryBrain node into an isolated development instance, so any site with a 2-server setup can add one with no change in operating costs.

90

factories previously shared 1 or 2 development servers

THE PROBLEM

The client wanted to start separating Ignition designers from production, which meant giving factories their own development servers. Across dozens of factories, dedicated development hardware would have been very expensive. Software, operations, and maintenance would add even more. The client needed a way to give designers a safe place to work without multiplying servers and running costs at every site.

HOW WE DID IT

A standard FactoryBrain setup runs as a pair of 2 nodes. Node 1 runs production Ignition. Node 2 receives snapshots and backups and acts as a cold spare. Plantformance reviewed the architecture and added a virtualization layer used only for disaster recovery. That layer also made it possible to run a development instance on node 2, fully isolated from node 1. During an emergency, the development instance can be swapped for production almost instantly. The capability is now a standard FactoryBrain feature.

BEFORE

1 or 2 development servers covered 90 factories.

AFTER

On a 2-server setup, a development server is a one-off software option. Teams work in both production and development, and the emergency fallback stays in place.

RESULTS

- Every 2-node site can run its own isolated development instance
- Operating costs did not change, even with the added development server
- Emergency fallback to node 2 is still available
- Now a standard FactoryBrain feature for all clients

Plantformance products and services: FactoryBrain

PLANT FORMANCE

NEXT STEP

Planning a project like this?

Talk to an Ignition engineer about your sites, timeline and architecture. We will tell you honestly what it takes.

Contact Plantformance

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Plantformance is an Inductive Automation Alliance Partner that helps enterprises deploy, secure, and scale Ignition across sites through plug-and-play modules, turnkey zero-maintenance HMI hardware, and 24/7 managed infrastructure.

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