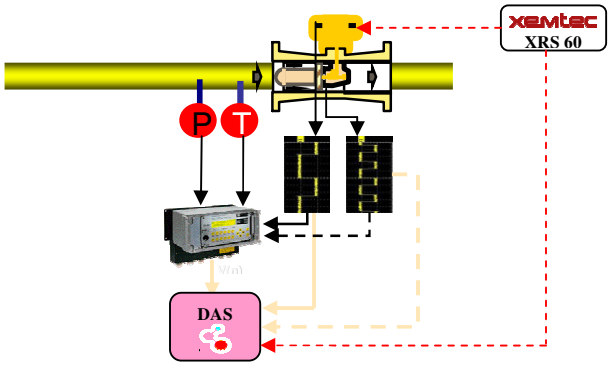
Fluxys ugrades its telemetering system and reduces operating costs thanks to Xemtec's Comet Optical Meter Readers

Fluxys, excellence in gas transport
Fluxys is the independent operator of the natural gas transmission and storage infrastructure in Belgium. Through its subsidiaries Fluxys LNG and Huberator, the company also operates the Zeebrugge liquefied natural gas terminal and the Zeebrugge Hub, one of the leading short-term gas markets in Europe. Fluxys plays a vital role in supplying natural gas to more than 250 industrial customers, combined heat and power units and power stations, which are directly connected to its grid. Fluxys also brings natural gas to 17 distribution system operators in Belgium, which in turn distribute it to homes and SMEs. Every year, the company transports around 17 billion cubic metres of natural gas for consumption in Belgium. Long-term reserved border to border transport capacity accounts for approximately 100 billion cubic metres per year. Thanks to its first-mover approach, Fluxys has also developed its infrastructure into a central crossroads for international gas flows in North-Western Europe.

Fluxys' existing Telemetering System
Fluxys owns and operates an efficient telemetering system that connects 450 gas metering stations scattered in the whole territory of Belgium to the central data acquisition and management system located at the company's headquarters in Brussels.



An opportunity to reduce operating costs and improve processes
The reading of the meter registers is necessary to allow the accurate and legally accepted billing of gas consumptions to distribution system operators and industrial end consumers. Thanks to the unique Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology offered by Xemtec and its recognized expertise in low-power RF systems, the index of the meter will be read by the electronic eye of the ATEX certified Comet XRS-60 Optical Meter Reader.

Fluxys' new innovative telemetering system
Fluxys made the commitment in March 2010 to start with the installation of Comet XRS-60 Optical Meter Readers onto their turbine meters. Fluxys stressed: ‹‹The decision to choose Xemtec's products was confirmed when we carried out an accelerated test on the Comet XRS-60 Optical Meter Reader and the Xemtec's RF key, the Xemgate-10. Indeed, after more than 40'000 RF sessions between the two devices, the Comet XRS-60 Optical Meter Reader was still running according to our expectations. ››
Meter registers will be optically captured and digitalized in the device. At regular pre-defined intervals, or on-demand, the readings stored in the Comet XRS-60 Optical Meter Readers will be transferred to the central data server located in Brussels. Data will then be validated and processed for billing purposes.

Comet XRS-60 installed on a turbine meter

New Telemetering Cabinet being tested

About Xemtec
Xemtec provides utilities and systems integrators worldwide with efficient, fast and economical AMR & smart metering. Solutions are based on its non-invasive retrofit Comet Optical Meter Readers, coupled to innovative communication devices and software packages.
Xemtec is committed to providing the most straightforward migration path from conventional to smart metering available anywhere, by offering the most cost-effective and open smart metering systems in the industry.

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