Planning a Factory Acceptance Test (FAT)

To ensure your systems will perform as intended, a comprehensive Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) is required prior to installation and commissioning. For a successful FAT, all stakeholders should be properly aligned in regard to the project execution team, timeline, FAT procedure, and other relevant action items.

Use this checklist as a guide to planning your next FAT.

Project Execution Team

Project Team _____

Operations _____

Maintenance _____

Vendors _____

Project Timeline

☐ Discuss expected date of the FAT with key stakeholders

☐ Establish duration sufficient for anticipated complexity of the project

☐ Plan the project schedule to accommodate time to address the FAT punch list and re-verify any new or changed logic

☐ Plan the project schedule to allow for equipment packing/shipping requirements and delivery times

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Each checklist will be unique to the project at hand. FATs may be hardware only, software only, or integrated hardware/software. **When creating the checklist, the following should be addressed:**

☐ Responsibilities & deliverables, assigned in advance

☐ Control module structures and I/O assignments

☐ Historical data collection

☐ Graphic functionality and module links

☐ Control panel build quality and functionality

☐ Control module functionality

☐ Higher level code functionality (equipment modules, phases, or other logic programs) & recipe handling

☐ Communication with other systems

☐ Interlock performance

☐ Any special items or concerns

☐ Anything that will not be included in the FAT

☐ Sign off fields for each item to be checked and a punch list form to track any action items

FAT To Dos

☐ Confirm the FAT procedure is reviewed by all involved personnel and comments have been sent back to the SI

☐ Plan for team accommodations and lunches

☐ Setup remote access for any teammates who aren't attending in person

☐ Confirm scheduled attendance

Hargrove's UL Certified in-house panel fabrication facility can perform fully integrated FATs by incorporating all aspects of the automation system including PLCs, DCS, SIS, and industrial control panels. To discuss our project methodology—including FAT procedures—contact our Team today.

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