



## Becoming Bigger & Better

In west Houston, the word “MAC” takes on a different connotation than simply a large burger with special sauce or the TV advertising antics of a energetic furniture sales magnate. Mustangers know, rather, that the acronym stands for Mustang Automation and Control, a dynamic group that has continued to grow and impress its clients since becoming part of the Mustang organization.

The MAC chronology began in the summer of 1996 when a core senior management team joined Mustang to simultaneously form the Process Plants and the Automation and Control Groups. This team had worked together in the industry for more than 20 years and hit the ground running. MAC offered two key benefits to Mustang and its clients. Initially, the group provided an in-house automation and control expertise to support the projects of Mustang’s upstream, pipeline and newly-formed process plants business segments. It quickly became evident, however, that the group’s expertise could be marketed separately because of the highly unique backgrounds of the personnel. Not only were they knowledgeable about the nuances of computers, automation and control, but they had worked extensively in the oil and gas industry and were intimate with the applications.

MAC brought a technology-independent approach to solving complex automation problems using a structured analysis technique. This technique employed CASE tools methodology to firmly define the project and communicate its scope to all the stakeholders on the project before expending the client’s budget. In keeping with Mustang’s underlying philosophy, MAC focuses on making its solutions fit-for-purpose, cost-effective and without surprises.

MAC’s reputation continued to grow, with an ever-expanding client base and a diversity of projects that included onshore production

West Africa platforms. The 1998 formation of Mustang Tampa provided MAC with an entree into non-energy sectors including pulp and paper, pharmaceuticals and manufacturing.

In early 2003, the group again expanded with the opening of MAC East in the heart of Houston’s refining and petrochemical complexes. With this startup, another group of seasoned veterans joined the company to offer expertise in engineering, field integration, commissioning, startup, Instrument and Electrical construction services, and maintenance. This facet further enhanced MAC’s goal of becoming a complete automation and control services provider.

MAC continued its expansion in August 2004 with the acquisition of Houston-based Ellipsys, Inc. This company focuses on the development and implementation of a broad offering of high-level application software and systems integration services, providing advanced solutions for process and manufacturing companies. An example is its powerful E!CEMS™ software that facilitates monitoring, storage, retrieval and reporting of emissions data for the process industries in their efforts to comply with Title V and other federal regulatory codes. Its innovative products, coupled with its integration and support services, make them an ideal fit with the existing capabilities of MAC.

With the synergy of its three capabilities in place, MAC is arguably one of the largest and most experienced *independent* automation and control providers. Its full-service capabilities extend from the remote field sensor to higher level business applications and everything in between. The group can handle any project phase from pre-FEED through life-of-project with planning, execution and application software. And as the furniture salesman might expound, MAC not only gets projects done expertly, but they “really can make you money!!”

SCADA systems that interface to higher level business systems, control system upgrades in refineries and chemical plants, and the control and automation systems for topsides facilities on world class Gulf of Mexico and