HiQ HELPS EMPOWER TO IMPROVE WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY THROUGH IOT

Multinational service provider Empower will be introducing an Internet of Things (IoT) based health and safety management system, EmSafe, to its clients. HiQ worked as Empower's development partner on the pioneering new system.

Health and safety is one of the key issues for the manufacturing and industrial sector. The EmSafe health and safety concept is inspired by day-to-day H&S activities, and the development project forms part of Empower's strategic digitization initiative.

"So far, workplace health and safety has relied on regulation, best practice and safety equipment. We wanted to update our approach to health and safety to make it fit for the new era and base it on real time data, making full use of the possibilities offered by automation," explains Mikko Marsio, Vice-President, Digital Business and IoT, at Empower.

Improving health and safety through real time data
The EmSafe workplace health and safety service is designed to issue automated alerts, monitor the location of staff, vehicles and even hazardous substances and identify anomalies, including people accessing restricted areas. The system will also record near misses and offers practical tools for improving the workplace health and safety culture.

"EmSafe will make full use of the potential offered by digital technologies as it analyses safety and business data to generate health and safety-related information that businesses can use to support their decision making. We believe that a safe workplace is also an efficient workplace. We are excited to be able to offer a brand new health and safety tool to our clients," Marsio says.

"EmSafe has been a fascinating project for us. Our team had the opportunity to consider workplace health and safety from a completely new perspective and figure out how we can use the latest technology to benefit this area. You can only fully exploit IoT's potential if you are able to successfully identify the things that really make a difference to the end user," says Jukka Rautio, Managing Director, HiQ Finland.

"At HiQ, we bring people, business and technology together, and EmSafe is an excellent example of this. We are delighted to have been able to work on this project along with Empower, as it speaks volumes about our ability to lead on IoT utilisation," says Lars Stugemo, President and CEO, HiQ.

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Empower is a service company that constructs and maintains electricity and telecom networks, maintains power plants and factories and delivers ICT solutions. Empower operates in about one hundred locations in Finland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The Group's net sales in 2015 were EUR 340 million and it employs around 2,550. www.empower.eu

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