ELECTRICAL AUTOMATION SYSTEMS TOWARDS INTELLIGENT AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY APPLICATIONS

Musse Mohamud Ahmed



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CHAPTER 15

DEVELOPMENT OF AUTOMATION SYSTEM FOR SMALL/MEDIUM SCALE BIOMASS BASED RENEWABLE POWER PLANTS

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This chapter presents introduction to biomass, biomass potential sources, electric panel 1, electric panel 2, pneumatic actuators and wiring diagrams

15.1 Introduction

Renewable Energy utilization for distributed generation system has been around since human being came into being in this world. There are different types of renewable energy sources such as biomass, solar, wind, geothermal, fuel cells, hydrogen, energy storage (batteries & capacitors), ocean waves, ocean tides and many others.

Nowadays there are new ways of relooking the utilization of renewable energy potential into more effective manner in terms of the technology used, sizing of the energy production, environmental impacts to the environment, type of consumers and the choices between grid connection and without grid connection.

15.2 Biomass

Biomass is one of the potential sources of renewable energy in the world in general and in Malaysia in particular. These sources are different from one another depending on where a particular feed-stock is originated from such as wood chips; palm oil fruit bunches (EFB), palm oil mill effluent (POME), rice husks and other available feed-stocks.

Some of the technology innovations of the renewable energy power plants are the usage of automation systems in order to be possible for the power plants to be more productive.

There have been attempts in Malaysia that the remote areas in the country should utilize the local available renewable energy sources so that the life style of the local population living in those areas should be improved substantially by having enough electricity in their localities.

An automation system has been proposed for 1 MW biomass power plant that utilizes wood chips as a feedstock. The wood chips generate gas and ash as by-products and the gas is used to run gas turbine to generate electricity. The proposed automation system could be a standard for all similar biomass power plants with the same sizes and beyond.

The proposed automation system has been implemented for biomass power plant which utilizes the small sized wood chips as feedstock. The plant was established as manual