TechTALK

NETAFIM™
GROW MORE WITH LESS

This month's edition of Netafim TechTALK focuses on NMC Controllers.

There are times when users would like to receive alarm notifications from their NMC controller. For example, if an irrigation program experienced a 'no flow' alarm. Such an alarm could indicate that a pump had failed or a valve did not open when it was supposed to. A 'low pH' alarm could indicate a failure in the acid injection system. A 'short circuit' or 'RTU error' would indicate that one of the controller's outputs had failed. Notifications about these alarms could help a grower react quickly to correct any issues and return their system to operation.

If your customer would like to receive alerts from their NMC Controller, it will require an internet connected PC running NMCnet and the new NMC Email Plugin. The plugin runs alongside NMCnet and monitors it for alarms. When an alarm is detected, it forwards the alarm to the defined email addresses. As an additional benefit, Netafim can use Email to SMS capabilities to send SMS alerts to older phones that don't have email access (e.g. for Verizon users, an email can be sent to 5551234567@vtext.com, and the email will be converted to an SMS message destined to 555-123-4567). Standard data and SMS rates apply to mobile users.

The software is bundled with a user guide to assist with the installation and configuration of the plugin. The program comes preconfigured to use a generic Gmail account to send notifications. Your customer can use this account or one of their own SMTP accounts.

The plugin also has the ability to send a test message to all of the defined addresses so that each one can be tested. In addition to this test message, the NMCnet software can be configured to send out a daily test message that would serve as a heartbeat, letting the user know daily that the system is working properly.

If you're interested in learning more about the NMC Email Plugin contact your Netafim representative.

If you have a suggestion for a future topic, we'd love to hear from you. Please email your idea to netafim.usa@netafim.com. Thank you.