

Press Release

Welcome to Madurodam

Madurodam - The smallest city of the Netherlands is well controlled by Hitachi's EH-150 Series PLC!

For more than 57 years Madurodam has been the smallest city in the Netherlands. Canals, gabled houses and all kinds of other typical Dutch scenes: the miniature city offers the highlights of the Netherlands on a scale 1:25. In miniature city Madurodam you can find the well-known buildings and scenes of The Netherlands. The Parliament buildings of The Hague, the canal houses of Amsterdam, the Alkmaar cheese market and little trees and gardens, all replicated in minute detail. Windmills turn, ships sail and modern trains are traversing the city on the world's largest miniature railway.

In order to control and synchronize the several moving parts in Madurodam, a sophisticated control system was needed. This system requires having excellent communication skills because of the wide area where all the parts of Madurodam are located. For this reason, Hitachi Europe GmbH's Dutch distributor Hiflex Automatiseringstechniek B.V. could offer a dedicated solution based on Hitachi's powerful, small modular PLC Series EH-150. Madurodam's responsible system integrator Verkerk Group decided to utilize the Hitachi solution for the following reasons:

- The good communication possibilities of Hitachi's EH-150 PLC based on Ethernet TCP/IP for supervising and on Profibus-DP for decentralized Remote I/O systems.
- The proven good quality and long term availability of the Hitachi PLC products.
- The known high level of support from Hiflex Automatiseringstechniek B.V.

In total there are 6 EH-150 PLC's installed in Madurodam which all communicate via Ethernet TCP/IP. The local control of the various items is realized based the EH-RIO remote I/O system using Profibus-DP as Fieldbus. The required level of automation for Madurodam is quite high and therefore the required amount of PLC components was very high which lead to a total sales of around 50.000,-€ only for PLC hardware.

According to Mr. Dick de Graaf, director of Hiflex Automatiseringstechniek B.V., Madurodam is a nice international reference project for Hitachi PLC since it is very well known in the Netherlands and attracts also many foreign visitors. Mr. de Graaf states that the combination of the complete Hitachi delivery portfolio with the local involvement of Hiflex and their flexible, customer oriented approach and the programming and installation skills of Verkerk was the key to a successful realization of this project.

Further information about Madurodam is available at <http://www.madurodam.nl>.

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Der Hauptsitz der HITACHI Europe GmbH befindet sich seit 1969 in Düsseldorf. Derzeit sind dort rund 80 Mitarbeiter international für das Unternehmen tätig. Insgesamt arbeiten derzeit 103 Mitarbeiter für die Hitachi Europe GmbH und weltweit 377.000 Arbeitnehmer für HITACHI. Das japanische Unternehmen mit seinem Hauptsitz in Tokyo vertreibt weltweit über 20.000 verschiedene Produkte. Für weitere Informationen über HITACHI besuchen Sie bitte die Firmenpräsenz im Internet: <http://www.hitachi.eu>.