

INTEGRATED COAL MINE SAFETY MONITORING AND ALERTING SYSTEM USING WIRELESS SENSOR NETWORK

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Abstract:

This paper presents a low power, cost-effective, And Zigbee protocol based wireless sensor network that provides an intelligent surveillance and safety system for underground coal mines. In this system is proposed for safe Coal Mine Monitoring, which plays an important role in coal mine safe production. With continuous enlarging of exploiting areas and extension of depth in coal mine, many laneways become monitoring blind areas, where are lots of hidden dangers. It is very difficult to lay cables which are not reliable and not effective. For to overcome this, a new system is proposed with the help of Zigbee technology. Which can improve the level of monitoring production safety and reduce accident in the coal mine. And this system proposes a low complexity parameter to determine the optimal placement of sensor nodes. The system realized real-time surveillance with early-warning intelligence on LPG, FIRE, Humidity, Metal, PANIC in mining area, and used voice alerts to reduce potential safety problems in coal production.

Key words:Temp sensor, humidity ,smoke ,gas sensor, Zigbee.

Introduction

The mining industry plays a vital role in the global economy. The current estimated market capitalization of global mining companies is about \$962 billion . A large portion of these operations are underground and involve specialized equipment and processes.

Communication systems play an increasingly important role in ensuring personnel safety and optimizing the mining process. The estimated size of underground mining equipment market alone is currently about \$45 billion [3], a small but important portion of which is allocated communications systems. Although interest in deploying wireless communication systems in underground mines dates back to the 1920's, the first wide deployment didn't take place until the early 1970's when the mining industry began to deploy very-high-frequency (VHF) radios and leaky feeder distribution systems [6]-[10]. The modern era of underground communications began in the early 2000's as the mining industry sought to take advantage of considerable advances in wireless communications. Although the mining industry is inherently conservative and reluctant to invest in costly new technologies, high profile accidents often prompted regulators to require that the mining (and mining communications) industry devote increasing attention to safety and safety communications . Recent interest in deploying next generation wireless communications technology in underground mines has stemmed from recent advances in short-range wireless communications technology In an underground mine, there are three possible mechanisms for communication signaling: through Zigbee.

The Hardware System

ARM7TDMI: ARM is the abbreviation of Advanced RISC Machines, it is the name of a class of processors, and is the name of a kind technology too. The RISC instruction set, and related decode

mechanism are much simpler than those of Complex Instruction Set Computer (CISC) designs.

Liquid-crystal display (LCD) is a flat panel display, electronic visual display that uses the light modulation properties of liquid crystals. Liquid crystals do not emit light directly. LCDs are available to display arbitrary images or fixed images which can be displayed or hidden, such as preset words, digits, and 7-segment displays as in a digital clock. They use the same basic technology, except that arbitrary images are made up of a large number of small pixels, while other displays have larger elements.

Design of Proposed Hardware System

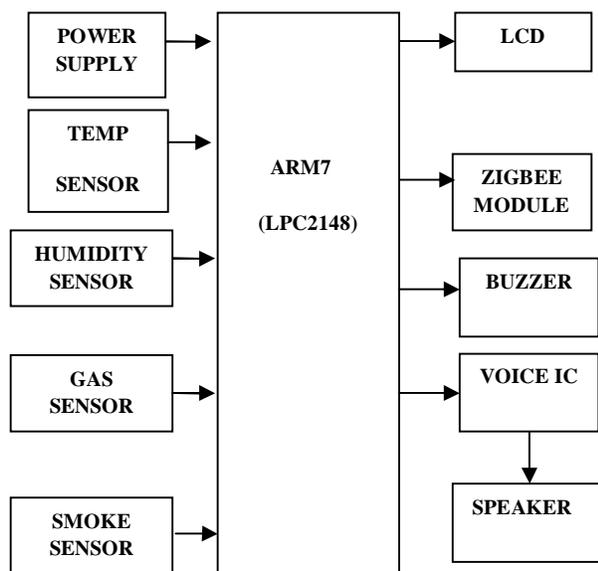


Fig.1.Blockdiagram

The proposed system is divided into two sections. First is a hardware circuit that will be attached with the body of the mine workers. This may be preferably fitted with the safety helmet of the workers also. The circuit has a sensor module consisting of some sensors that measures realtime underground parameters like temperature, humidity and gas concentration.

Gas concentration is meant for the harmful gases like methane and carbon-monoxide. A microcontroller is used with the sensors to receive the sensor outputs and to take the necessary decision. Once temperature is more than the safety level preprogrammed at microcontroller, microcontroller decodes beep alarms through the headset speaker connected with controller once the measured humidity value is more than the safety level preprogrammed at microcontroller; it decodes different type of beep alarms. Similarly when gas concentration crosses the safety level, microcontroller decodes siren alarms. Different sensors values are displayed in the LCD of mine workers section. A voice announcement is given when the sensor levels exceed the threshold levels. In all such cases, this will send an alarm through an urgent message and alarm sound to the ground control terminal through Zigbee.

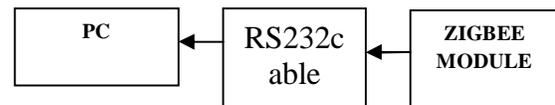


Fig.2.Block diagram

In control station the information is received by Zigbee transceiver and the status of the sensors is monitored in the PC.

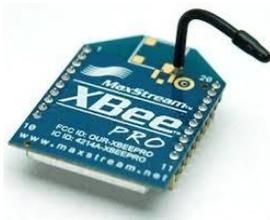
Board Hardware Resources Features

Zigbee

Zigbee modules feature a UART interface, which allows any microcontroller or microprocessor to immediately use the services of the Zigbee protocol. All a Zigbee hardware designer has to do in this case is ensure that the host's serial port logic levels are compatible with the XBee's 2.8- to 3.4-V logic levels. The logic level conversion can be performed using either a standard RS-232 IC or logic level translators such as the 74LVTH125 when the

host is directly connected to the XBee UART. The below table gives the pin description of transceiver. The X-Bee RF Modules interface to a host device through a logic-level asynchronous Serial port. Through its serial port, the module can communicate with any logic and voltage Compatible UART; or through a level translator to any serial device.

Data is presented to the X-Bee module through its DIN pin, and it must be in the asynchronous serial format, which consists of a start bit, 8 data bits, and a stop bit. Because the input data goes directly into the input of a UART within the X-Bee module, no bit inversions are necessary within the asynchronous serial data stream. All of the required timing and parity checking is automatically taken care of by the X-Bee's UART.



Features:

- Internal Sourcing of almost all of main Parts

Almost all components - frame, key switches and membrane sheet - other than connectors and cord are manufactured in-house, giving Minebea an unmatched advantage in terms of quality, supply capabilities, cost-competitiveness and speed of delivery.

Especially, these products capitalize on Minebea's ultra-precision machining technology of components.

- Efficient Production System

Plant in China which supplies the global market employs the Minebea's vertically integrated manufacturing system, whereby all process, from machining components to final assembly are conducted in-house.

SENSORS:

Thermistor

A **thermistor** is a type of resistor whose resistance varies significantly with temperature, more so than in standard resistors. The word is a portmanteau of thermal and resistor. Thermistors are widely used as inrush current limiters, temperature sensors, self-resetting over current protectors, and self-regulating heating elements. Thermistors differ from resistance temperature detectors (RTD) in that the material used in a thermistor is generally a ceramic or polymer, while RTDs use pure metals. The temperature response is also different; RTDs are useful over larger temperature ranges, while thermistors typically achieve a higher precision within a limited temperature range, typically $-90\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to $130\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$.

SMOKE SENSOR: Smoke sensor is used to detect any leakage of smoke and any hazardous gases such that an alarm can be initiated to avoid any damages in the industries. These sensors are also used in many applications like corporate and in any office work areas these are linked to fire alarms .And buzzers through the micro-controller. There are two main types of smoke detectors: Ionization detectors and photoelectric detectors. A smoke alarm uses one or both methods, sometimes plus a heat detector, to warn of a fire. Ionization detectors have an ionization chamber and a source of ionizing radiation. The source of ionizing radiation is a minute quantity of americium-241 (perhaps 1/5000th of a gram), which is a source of alpha particles (helium nuclei). The ionization chamber consists of two plates separated by about a centimeter. The battery applies a voltage to the plates, charging one plate positive and the other plate negative. Alpha particles constantly released by the americium knock electrons off of the atoms in the air, ionizing the oxygen and nitrogen atoms in the chamber. The positively-charged oxygen particles attach to the ions and neutralize them, so they do not reach the plate. The drop in current

between the plates triggers the alarm. In one type of photoelectric device, smoke can block a light beam. In this case, the reduction in light reaching a photocell sets off the alarm. In the most common type of photoelectric unit, however, light is scattered by smoke particles onto a photocell, initiating an alarm. In this type of detector there is a T-shaped chamber with a light-emitting diode (LED) that shoots a beam of light across the horizontal bar of the T. A photocell, positioned at the bottom of the vertical base of the T, generates a current when it is exposed to light. Under smoke-free conditions, the light beam crosses the top of the T in an uninterrupted straight line, not striking the photocell positioned at a right angle below the beam. When smoke is present, the light is scattered by smoke particles, and some of the light is directed down the vertical part of the T to strike the photocell. When sufficient light hits the cell, the current triggers the alarm.



HUMIDITY:

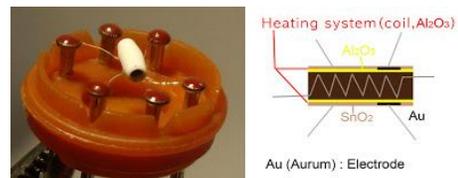
Humidity is the amount of water vapor in the air. In daily language the term "humidity" is normally taken to mean relative humidity. Relative humidity is defined as the ratio of the partial pressure of water vapor in a parcel of air to the saturated vapor pressure of water vapor at a prescribed temperature. Humidity may also be expressed as absolute humidity and specific humidity. Relative humidity is an important metric used in forecasting weather. Humidity indicates the likelihood of precipitation, dew, or fog. High humidity makes people feel hotter outside in the summer because it reduces the effectiveness of sweating to cool the body by preventing the evaporation of perspiration from the skin. Absolute humidity is the quantity of water in a particular volume of air. The most common units are grams per cubic meter, although any mass unit and any volume unit could be used. Relative humidity is defined as

the ratio of the partial pressure of water vapor in a gaseous mixture of air and water vapor to the saturated vapor pressure of water at a given temperature. Relative humidity is expressed as a percentage. Specific humidity is the ratio of water vapor to air (including water vapor and dry air) in a particular volume. Measuring and regulating humidity.

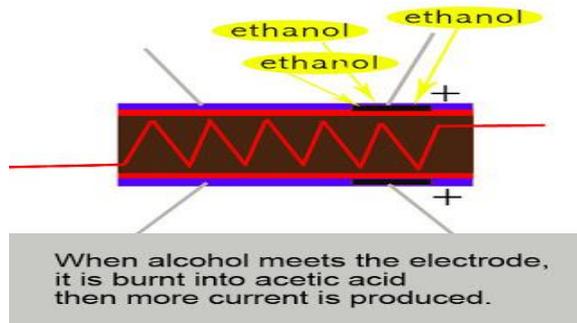


Gas Sensor

Gas sensor an Alumina tube cover by SnO₂, which is tin dioxide. And between them there is an Aurum electrode, the black one. And also you can see how the wires are connected. So, why do we need them? Basically, the alumina tube and the coils are the heating system, the yellow, brown parts and the coils in the picture



SnO₂ ceramics will become the semi-conductor, so there are more movable electrons, which means that it is ready to make more current flow when the alcohol molecules in the air meet the electrode that is between alumina and tin dioxide, ethanol burns into acetic acid then more current is produced. So the more alcohol molecules there are, the more current we will get. Because of this current change, we get the different values from the sensor.



ADVANTAGES:

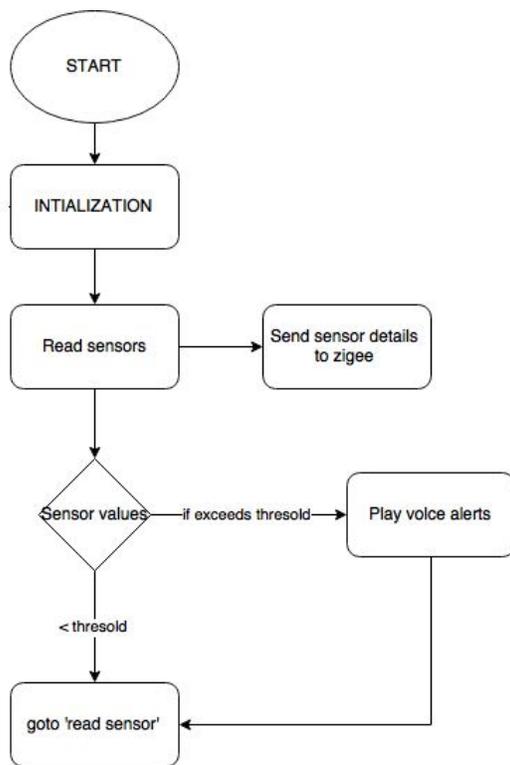
- » Provide more safety for the mine workers.
- » Automatic alert system in the nuclear industries

Conclusion

The need for wireless communication in the underground mining industry has evolved person-to-person communication through mobile and to high speed it is Observed that Zigbee based wireless transmission is most suitable for underground coal mines for its low power, low cost intrinsic safe characteristics. Real time environmental data in underground mines are collected through sensor nodes and continuous data transmission to the surface control room is possible through wireless network. This will enhance the safety of the miners working underground with additional reliability and flexibility.

This system not only can monitor all kinds of parameters under the coal mine, but also can alarm automatically when environment parameters are abnormal to exceed the limitation, which help improve the level of monitoring safety production and reduce accident in the coal mine. Therefore, the coal mine Safety Monitoring system put forward in this article quite meets the need of coal mine safety monitoring.

FLOWCHART



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APPLICATIONS:

- » Coal mine
- » Industries.



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BIOGRAPHIES



Raja Sharath Chandra Guduru currently a PG scholar of ES&VLSI in ECE Department. He received B.TECH degree from JNTU. His current research interest includes Analysis & Design of VLSI and embedded System Design.



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