



## CASE STUDY FREE STATE OIL



### CREATING A SAFER WORK ENVIRONMENT

VKB Agriculture's Free State Oil (FSO) soybean processing facility in Villiers (Free State province, South Africa) started production in September 2012. Since then, FSO has been focused on producing good-quality soybean meal and oil. The facility has a capacity of 150,000 tons of soybeans per year and offers soybean producers in the area a valuable outlet.

FSO describes their business model: "FSO supplies its products to multiple market segments such as home mixers and stock feed producers, which include the feed companies who also form part of the VKB Group. This makes FSO an integral part of the value chain, which ultimately places chicken meat on the consumer's table.

The establishment of FSO incentivised farmers to develop their crop rotation practices further by increasing the demand for local soybeans. As a key role player in the agricultural value chain, FSO proudly contributes to the VKB Group's commitment to rural development."

Technoswitch and Fire Quip Bloemfontein were appointed based on their success and reputation in the fire detection industry. Fire detection systems from Technoswitch protect other VKB sites, and these proven installations played a key role in VKB's decision to opt for the same high-quality fire detection system at their Free State facility.

FSO's main challenge was determining the cause of intermittent fires in the product dryer. Technoswitch investigated the situation and pinpointed the potential causes of the fire.

Technoswitch recommended the SecuriHeat ADW Linear Heat Detector for this application in light of the challenging environment and to prevent false alarms. The SecuriHeat ADW-535 uses a physical principle to its advantage: If the ambient temperature increases, the volume of heated air also expands. Air-filled sensing tubes transmit this pressure increase to a sensor in the cable terminal processor. The system triggers an alarm as soon as a defined limit is exceeded.

The project was completed in January 2021.

### INDUSTRY

- Agricultural

### PRODUCT INFORMATION

- SecuriHeat ADW LHD
- SecuriSmoke ASD Heavy Duty
- Advanced Intelligent Fire Panels
- GSNet Graphical Software
- Technoswitch PSUs
- Apollo Intelligent Devices
- Warning Devices





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**SecuriHeat  
ADW-535 LHD**



**SecuriSmoke Heavy Duty  
ASD-535**



**Advanced Intelligent  
1-Loop FACP**



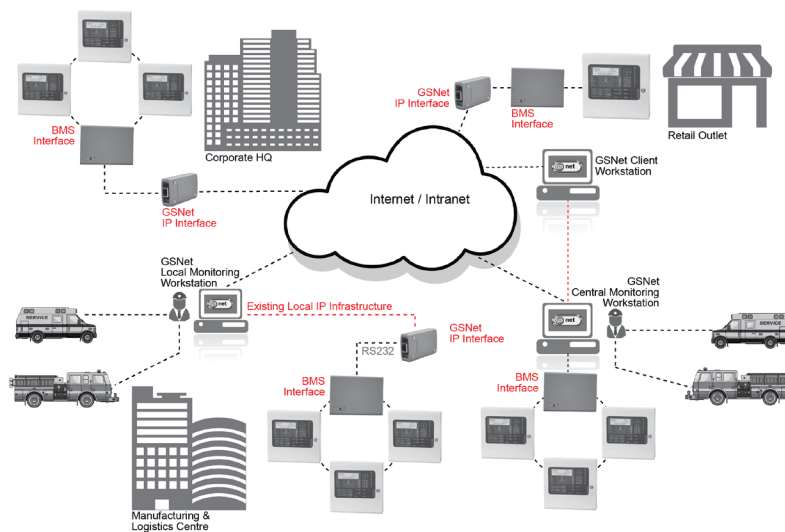
**Technoswitch  
PSU2A-ABS**



**Klaxon Nexus  
Sounder**



**Klaxon Sonos  
Sounder/Beacon**



**GSNet  
Graphical Software**

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