About CIAT
Situated in the Rhone-Alpes region of France in Culoz, CIAT has been an expert producer of air conditioning, refrigeration and heating units for 80 years. CIAT also leads the market in sustainable solutions related to heat exchange and air handling and continues to be a trusted resource for comfort, air quality and energy optimization. A company dedicated to the environment and in using energy wisely, all of CIAT’s products and facilities are in accordance with the provisions of the Grenelle Environment Round Table.

ICONICS Software Deployed
CIAT implemented ICONICS’ GENESIS64™, ScheduleWorX™, BridgeWorX™, WebHMI™ and OPC Server, along with Microsoft SQL Server 2008, across their entire building following a three month pilot program.

Project Summary
In 2013, CIAT employed a workforce of 2,100 people (1,150 in the Rhône-Alpes plants) with a turnover of 256 million Euros. Keeping a steady workforce was an important piece of the upgrade to CIAT. Protecting the environment and using energy wisely were two other components CIAT vowed to never compromise on, and pledges that these are still core business values. Its development subscribes to optimizing energy consumption, improving air quality and ensuring a comfortable atmosphere inside buildings, while providing the best support available to clients.

Self-described as a company dedicated to the world around them, it is essential to CIAT to stay current with cutting-edge industry trends and research. Due to these priorities, CIAT decided it was time to investigate 64-bit monitoring systems that aligned with their values for innovation and sustainability. This search ultimately led them to ICONICS due to their best in class 64-bit solutions, Microsoft Gold certification, and their Web-client connectivity, as well as the scalability of the solution. CIAT was also impressed with the unification and standardization of communications with all their equipment (e.g. meters, compressors,
etc.) through OPC technology. ICONICS software provided the ability to integrate information from a broad range of equipment and systems used without breaking existing connections.

“Today we must design living and working spaces that are safe, comfortable and sustainable,” said Eric Blanccard, CIAT’s Project Manager. “CIAT is strongly committed to environmental protection and has made this concern an integral part of its development strategy. CIAT’s expertise is based on three fundamental axes: air quality, comfort and energy optimization.” Luckily, ICONICS’ values and software fit perfectly into these priorities.

In initial planning meetings, CIAT broke the implementation process out into phases. The first involved laying the foundation of the solution, (including designing the hardware and software architecture). Then CIAT began the implementation of ICONICS software and rolled it out across the entire facility over the course of one year. The CIAT Group has six industrial plants based in France (with four plants, three of which are located in Rhône-Alpes), Spain and Italy. With one server and 500 tags, the project modernized the way that CIAT had been operating.

System Benefits
With seven buildings of 92,000 square meters of office and production space, CIAT used ICONICS to centralize the Culoz Servers, access data remotely via Ethernet, view monitoring and consulting reports via the Web, and control devices on a set schedule. They were also able to reach their sustainability goals through ICONICS’ 64-bit technology. Using OPC technology, CIAT can now interface with MobiCall, Europe’s leading unified event communication service, as well. CIAT was very pleased with the tremendous success of the ICONICS system.

Conclusion
After the project concluded, CIAT analyzed their initial goals and evaluated, based on data and surveys, how well ICONICS’ solutions met their expectations. The results made everyone very excited. Not only had the project goals been met, but CIAT found the system easy to configure and operate as well. Thanks to ICONICS’ GENESIS64, CIAT has high hopes of running an environmentally friendly, low-impact operation and has plans to add Energy AnalytiX® to various locations to improve their energy consumption and conservation even further.