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**Highlights from this report:**

- **Insights** from numerous executive interviews with market leading companies.
- **360-degree overview** of the IoT ecosystem in the industrial automation industry.
- **Comprehensive overview** of key applications for wireless IoT solutions in industrial automation.
- **In-depth analysis** of market trends and key developments.
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Wireless IoT improves performance throughout the enterprise value chain

Wireless connectivity is instrumental in the Internet of Things era and the use of wireless solutions in industrial automation is increasing rapidly at all levels of automation systems. Industrial automation systems utilize wireless communication to connect remote and local facilities and equipment to increase operational efficiency. A wireless automation system contains a mix of network technologies, equipment and systems including enterprise and automation systems, network equipment, control devices and field devices. The most common wireless technologies in industrial automation include cellular, 802.11.x Wi-Fi, proprietary unlicensed ISM radio, Bluetooth and 802.15.4 based protocols such as WirelessHART, ISA100.11a, WIA-PA and ZigBee.

Berg Insight estimates that shipments of wireless devices for industrial automation applications including both network and automation equipment reached 3.7 million units worldwide in 2014. Growing at a compound annual growth rate of 23.2 percent, shipments are expected to reach 12.9 million by 2020. The installed base of wireless devices in industrial applications is forecasted to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 27.2 percent from 10.3 million connections at the end of 2014 to 43.5 million devices by 2020. Wi-Fi is widely used for backbone communications as well as in monitoring and control applications within factory automation where Industrial Ethernet has got a strong foothold. Bluetooth is also popular – often as a point-to-point wire-replacement between for example a mobile HMI solution and a field device or control unit. 802.15.4 networks are often used to connect wireless sensors and instrumentation in process automation. Cellular connectivity is typically used for backhaul communication between plants, connecting remote devices in long haul SCADA applications and for third party access to machinery and robots. Most of the major vendors of wireless IoT devices in industrial automation offer a wide range of devices with various wireless technologies in order to support many different applications.

Global automation solution providers such as Emerson, GE, ABB, Honeywell, Schneider Electric, Yokogawa and Rockwell Automation are all major providers of wireless solutions to the automation industry. As wireless solutions have become increasingly popular, more and more major automation equipment and solution vendors are offering wireless technology as part of their solutions. Eaton is a major provider of Wi-Fi and cellular devices for industrial automation applications and Endress+Hauser and Pepperl+Fuchs are successful vendors of 802.15.4 devices. National Instruments offers a wide range of measurement and control equipment featuring embedded Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, Advantech and Kontron offer many of their automation products as well as their network infrastructure equipment together with WPAN, WLAN and WWAN options.

Industrial communication specialists offer equipment and solutions for industrial automation networks and wireless is becoming a natural part of many major vendors’ offering. Phoenix Contact, Belden, Laird Technologies, Wago and Weidmüller are major vendors within industrial communications with thousands of employees which all have incorporated one or more wireless standards in their offerings. Red Lion, HMS Networks, Westermo, Moxa and B+B SmartWorx are industrial communication specialists renowned for their wireless offerings. Cisco is one of the largest vendors of communication infrastructure equipment and provides wireless WPAN, WLAN and WWAN devices to a wide range of industries, including industrial automation. Sierra Wireless, CalAmp and Digi International are major cellular M2M device vendors which provide products and solutions to the industrial automation industry.

Today, many companies are increasingly deepening the integration between industrial automation systems and enterprise applications. IT/OT convergence, smart factories, Industry 4.0 and the Industrial Internet of Things are all concepts which are part of the ongoing evolution of industrial automation. Increased interoperability and communication between devices, systems, services and people in combination with technologies such as advanced sensors, smart devices, wireless technologies, 3D printing, mobile devices, wearable technology and big data solutions have the ability to improve performance, flexibility and responsiveness throughout the enterprise value chain.

This report answers the following questions:

- Which are the major applications for wireless IoT in industrial automation?
- Which are the leading wireless IoT solution providers for industrial automation applications?
- What offerings are available from device vendors and service providers?
- What are the key drivers behind the adoption of wireless IoT in industrial automation?
- What impact will technology advancements have on the market?
- How will the market evolve in North America, Asia-Pacific and Europe?
- Why is Big Data analytics and cloud solutions crucial for the future of wireless connectivity in industrial automation?
- How will connectivity strategies in industrial automation evolve in the future?
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