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Chapter 1, Problem 6P

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Problem

Explain what is meant by sequential control and illustrate your answer by an example.

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 3

Sequential Control is control where the individual steps of a process are ordered to take place as per a predetermined sequence. It may be ordered in an event driven or time driven sequence.

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Step 2 of 3

An event driven sequence means that the control system progresses from one step to the next step based on the fulfillment of certain criteria in the current step. Time driven sequence means the steps are sequenced with respect to time. The sequence control in modern systems usually takes place by assistance of software.

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Step 3 of 3

An example of sequential control would be a simple water heating system consisting of a tank, pump and a heater; it is a time driven sequence control system. Initially, the tank is empty. The pump is made ON for certain period of time so that it fills the tank up to a certain level. After this, the pump is switched OFF and the heater is switched ON for certain fixed time. It is assumed that the temperature of water has reached the desired level.

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