

July 2024 | #022024





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www.ethercat.org

#### Dear Members,

**EDITORIAL** 

On page 5 of today's newsletter you can see the people who make up the ETG core team in Germany. Most of them have been on board for a long time, and all of them are committed to contributing their talents and skills to advance EtherCAT and the ETG. One example: membership administration. Enrolling almost 500 new members in a year, checking the company data, obtaining the consent of the Board of Directors, listing the members on our website, and keeping track of the constant changes in over 7700 members — a Herculean task that Liliane



Hügel has mastered in exemplary fashion for almost 18 years. But let me highlight another person in particular today: Dr. Karl Weber. To describe Karl as a globally recognized fieldbus specialist does not even do him justice. Physical layers, protocols, diagnostics there is practically nothing in the fieldbus and Ethernet sector for which Karl is not considered an expert. Since 2005, Karl has been contributing with dedication and passion to making EtherCAT what it is today. In the process, he was appointed to the IEEE's governing standardization committee and received the prestigious "1906" award from the IEC for his contributions to international fieldbus standardization. Karl has repeatedly postponed his retirement, but unfortunately the time has now come: Two weeks ago we had to bid him farewell as he took his well-deserved retirement. Thank you for everything, Karl

However, the ETG team includes not only the Germans, but also great people in China, Japan, Korea, and the USA. But we will introduce them at another time. Now I hope you enjoy reading and hope to meet you in person soon!

Best regards

Mater Kato

Martin Rostan **Executive Director** 

## Global ETG team unites on the occasion of 20 years of ETG

On the occasion of celebrating 20 years of ETG late last year the international ETG team recently gathered for our Global Strategy Meeting.

The EtherCAT Technology Group was founded in November 2003, and the then still new organization met for the first time in April of the following year.

### EtherCAT adoption rate: vendors

EtherCAT is widespread in different markets as well as countries. Please have a look at the impressive figures:



\*Indicated changes are compared to the last ETG News.

It was a perfect coincidence that the global ETG team also met almost exactly twenty years later to discuss current topics relating to EtherCAT as part of the ETG Global Strategy Meeting 2024.

Read more on page 2.

### Playing with figures

We have more than **7700** members from **75** countries and **6** continents. EtherCAT is implemented on more than 40 different RTOS and over **1300** products have been entered in the official EtherCAT Product Guide. There are 60 different Safety over EtherCAT vendors and 68 sensor and actor manufacturers. EtherCAT offers connectivity to 39 other communication systems. About 500 new members have joined the EtherCAT Technology Group in the last 12 months. ETG has over 7900 followers on LinkedIn and more than 2000 subscribers on YouTube.



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**TITLE STORY** 

### Global ETG team unites on the occasion of 20 years of ETG

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It was a perfect coincidence that the global ETG team also met almost exactly twenty years later to discuss current topics relating to EtherCAT as part of the ETG Global Strategy Meeting 2024.

In attendance were a total of 37 team members from marketing and technology from ETG's global offices in Germany, USA, China, Japan, and Korea. We took the chance to update each other on the situation in the international ETG offices, heard exciting and informative presentations on the development of EtherCAT in general, but also discussed topics around our everyday work in detail both in the fields of marketing and technology. We spoke about the status quo of EtherCAT, exchanged on standardization topics and worked on the future strategy for marketing EtherCAT as the leading Industrial Ethernet technology surrounded by a stable global community.

We speak on behalf of all our colleagues when we say that this meeting brought us a decisive step forward both for our daily work with EtherCAT and as a strong team. A fact for which we are very grateful and which we truly appreciate.





# The somewhat different interview...

ETG member company HELUKABEL Vietnam recently published an interview with our Executive Director Martin Rostan. The questions slightly differed from what he is used to be asked in interviews.

This is for you if you have a moment and would like to have 20 random questions answered by Martin Rostan.

Watch interview



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# ETG concludes EtherCAT ITW World Series 2024 with record participation

Five weeks, five regions: The EtherCAT International Technology Week (ITW) World Series 2024 has successfully come to an end and embodies a milestone in terms of collaboration, knowledge exchange and dynamics within the EtherCAT developer community in Europe, China, America, Japan as well as Korea with nearly 1,000 participants.

The EtherCAT ITW, a training event from the ETG, brings together developers of EtherCAT MainDevices, SubDevices, Configurators, codes and tools to acquire detailed and practical EtherCAT development know-how in numerous, regionally customized webinars. The content covers important topics such as implementation, certification and release processes for EtherCAT devices.

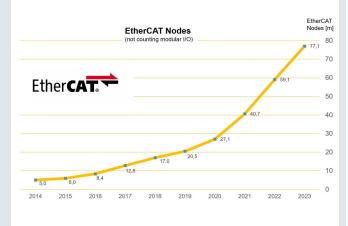
During the webinars, ETG's EtherCAT experts share their experience and expertise to practically address the challenges of EtherCAT device development. The interactive format allows attendees to get involved during the presentations. In addition, special question and answer sessions after each webinar encourage in-depth discussion and a lively exchange of knowledge.

Read full press release

# 77 million EtherCAT nodes in total, including 18 million in 2023

The strong growth of EtherCAT continues: the EtherCAT Technology Group now counts a total of 77 million EtherCAT nodes worldwide, with 18 million added in 2023 alone. These figures are based on EtherCAT chips sold. To mark 20 years of EtherCAT, the ETG published node figures for the first time last year, which is why they are not yet included in the usual market studies.

"The number of new EtherCAT nodes added in 2023 is impressive. We had assumed that chip sales would fall drastically after the end of the semiconductor crisis, as everyone had stockpiled significantly more chips than were needed in the short term," explains Martin Rostan, Executive Director of the EtherCAT Technology Group.



Read full press release



# EtherCAT Technology Group distributes 4000th EtherCAT Vendor ID

With the assignment of the 4000th EtherCAT Vendor ID, the EtherCAT Technology Group once again underlines the outstanding diversity of EtherCAT manufacturers. The Vendor ID is mandatory for manufacturers of EtherCAT devices and enables those devices to be uniquely identified and assigned worldwide.

Accordingly, each EtherCAT device must bear its manufacturer's unique Vendor ID. The ETG alone assigns EtherCAT Vendor ID numbers and provides precise guidelines for their use.

Oliver Fels, who is responsible for Vendor ID at ETG, explains: "Every manufacturer of an EtherCAT device must be a member of the ETG and have a valid Vendor ID. This must be implemented in every EtherCAT device before it is launched on the market. Users of EtherCAT devices such as machine builders, OEMs or system integrators do not need a Vendor ID."

Read full press release



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## 2024 European EtherCAT Plug Fest

In June we invited all vendors of EtherCAT MainDevices, SubDevices, codes, and tools to participate in the 2024 European EtherCAT Plug Fest. The event took place in Hattersheim, Germany, at facilities of ETG member company Hilscher Gesellschaft für Systemautomation mbH.

With more than 65 participants from 29 different manufacturers the EtherCAT Plug Fest was fully booked and our ETG experts are once more thrilled by the high level of interest in EtherCAT and the demand for this type of developer meeting. The goal of the EtherCAT Plug Fests is to perform interoperability tests. MainDevice and SubDevice suppliers gather to test and improve interoperability, share implementation tips and tricks, and clarify questions regarding the technology. EtherCAT experts from the ETG support the Plug Fest with their know-how on-site.



# Take advantage of the EtherCAT Compendium

The EtherCAT Compendium provides a comprehensive, coherent description of EtherCAT with its technical details, system, implementation, and user aspects and is available for all members on our website.

Individual chapters are published one by one until they will form the complete EtherCAT Compendium. This keeps the content up-to-date and best accessible for our members.

The EtherCAT Compendium aims at generally interested readers, developers, and support engineers, as well as test engineers, students, and academics of ETG members.

New chapters are published continuously. The latest version of the EtherCAT Compendium can be downloaded via our website (member login required). The date of publication is used to identify the EtherCAT Compendium version.

EtherCAT Compendium





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## ETG in the spotlight: the ETG Headquarters in Nuremberg, Germany

Our new series "ETG in the spotlight" highlights different areas within our organization. Let's start with our global ETG offices. In this edition of our news, we present the ETG Headquarters located in Nuremberg, Germany.



Working with a view: The ETG Office Germany offers a fantastic view over Nuremberg's zoo.

### A constantly growing team

As we all know, what started small in 2003 has grown bigger and bigger. Of course, a certain amount of manpower is required to manage this. Today, the ETG in Germany has 18 people working around Executive Director Martin Rostan to further develop the technology, support members and take EtherCAT all over the world.



Martin Rostan **Executive Director** 



Alessandro Figini Technology



Marcel Kießling Standardization

Ether**CAT** 

Technology Group



Polina Andreeva Marketing



Christiane Hammel PR



Stefanie Klein Marketing



Janett Eibisch Technology



Technology



Elena Steiger Marketing



Rainer Hoffmann Technology



Dr. Karl Weber Standardization



Liliane Hügel

Administration

Dr. Guido Beckmann

Chairman TAB

(located in Verl)



**Oliver Fels** Marketing



Daniel Keil Technology



Thomas Rettig Technology (located in Verl)







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### **Our Team: Christiane Hammel**

Within this section of our newsletter we introduce you to our team members at the EtherCAT Technology Group.

Name: Christiane Hammel

Hobbies: knitting, running, hanging out with my family

With the team since: 2012

Tasks at ETG: Mainly public and media relations (press releases, professional articles, Social Media, EtherCAT website, ETG publications such as the news you're reading right now. ;-)). Additionally, I deal with terminology, lecturing and various other exciting tasks that come along my way.

Why ETG: I like the work ethic here a lot, we have a strong bond between us colleagues that makes coming to the office a pleasure. And: I love my job and the tasks I'm working on here.

Why EtherCAT: The success story of EtherCAT is just impressive. Supporting it with my daily work makes me feel good.

## Seminars & Technology Days

Indonesia | Jul 11, 2024 Jakarta

Canada | Jul 23, 2024 Burnaby (BC)

Saudi Arabia | Sep 02 - 03, 2024 Chubar, Riad

United Arab Emirates | Sep 04, 2024 Dubai

Belgium | Oct 15, 2024 Mechelen

China | Oct 21 - 25, 2024 Beijing, Wuhan, Shenzhen

## **Tradeshows & Exhibitions**

**TECHNO-FRONTIER 2024: ETG Booth** Jul 24 - 26, 2024 | Tokyo, Japan

Automation Taipei 2024: ETG Booth Aug 21 - 24, 2024 | Taipei, Taiwan

Industrial Automation Show (IAS): ETG Booth Sep 24 - 28, 2024 | Shanghai, China



## **Technical Working Group Meetings**

**TWG Safety** Sep 24, 2024 | Online

### What else?

Industrial Open Networks Fair: ETG Booth + Seminar Jul 17, 2024 | Osaka, Japan

2024 North American EtherCAT Plug Fest Aug 14 - 15, 2024 | St. Louis (MO), USA

**ETG Safety over EtherCAT Seminar** Sep 30, 2024 | Nuremberg, Germany

ETG Technical Committee (TC) Meeting | Autumn 2024 Oct 01, 2024 | Nuremberg, Germany

Further details about the single events plus all other ETG events can be found here: www.ethercat.org/events

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UPCOMING EVENTS