

EtherCAT successful in Asia

The Far East activities of the EtherCAT Technology Group begin to bear fruit, EtherCAT quickly gains in importance in Asia as well. Driven by demand also from the domestic market, more and more leading controls vendors implement devices with EtherCAT interface.

At the EtherCAT Technology Group booth at the System Control Fair in Tokyo – the Japanese equivalent to the SPS/IPC/DRIVES show – several Japanese companies showed EtherCAT devices for the first time. Hitachi introduced both an EtherCAT motion controller and EtherCAT drives; EtherCAT is now part of their communication network strategy. There was enormous interest in EtherCAT at the show. Several other important Japanese vendors are currently implementing their EtherCAT devices.

At the Industrial Automation Show in Shanghai the ETG booth was also well frequented. In China several device vendors have started to implement the fastest Industrial Ethernet Technology as well. After the Shanghai show, Dr. YanQiang Liu of the ETG Office China held an EtherCAT implementation workshop which was well received.

At the Kick-Off Meeting of the ETG Office Korea the two largest Korean control equipment vendors Samsung and LS Industrial Systems introduced EtherCAT motion controllers and drives. EtherCAT is used in Korea in a large variety of applications, including the most important local industries semiconductor manufacturing and ship building.

Martin Rostan, Executive Director of the ETG, is happy about the good start in Asia: “Even though the markets in Japan, Korea and China are very different, they have one thing in common: the need for high-performance communication technology. Many companies are currently launching the development of new device generations, and EtherCAT is the perfect fit: simple to implement at low costs, best performance, and a truly open technology to which all companies have access in equal measure. I had expected that e.g. Japanese vendors would support EtherCAT for the export market at first – and now we see the pleasant surprise that large Japanese machine building companies ask their

EtherCAT Technology Group
Martin Rostan
Ostendstraße 196
90482 Nuremberg
Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 9 11 / 5 40 56 20
Fax: +49 (0) 9 11 / 5 40 56 29
m.rostan@ethercat.org
www.ethercat.org

Press Contact
Andrea Bock
Beckhoff Automation GmbH
Eiserstr. 5
33415 Verl
Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 52 46 / 9 63 140
Fax: +49 (0) 52 46 / 9 63 199
press@ethercat.org
www.ethercat.org/press/

suppliers for EtherCAT technology. Thus EtherCAT is establishing itself as “Japanese” Fieldbus Technology as well.”

The **EtherCAT Technology Group** (ETG) is an organization in which key user companies from various industries and leading automation suppliers join forces to support, promote and advance the EtherCAT technology. With over 600 members, the EtherCAT Technology Group has become the largest organization in the world that is exclusively focused on Industrial Ethernet technologies. Founded in November 2003, it is also currently the fastest growing fieldbus organization.

EtherCAT sets new standards for real-time performance and topology flexibility, while meeting or undercutting fieldbus cost levels. EtherCAT features include high precision device synchronization, a cable redundancy option, and a functional safety protocol (SIL3).

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Press picture



Picture caption:

Dr. YanQiang Liu at the EtherCAT implementation training class in Shanghai

➔ ETG booth at SPS/IPC/DRIVES: **Hall 6, Booth 309**

For further information please see www.ethercat.org