



EtherCAT products and solutions at SPS/IPC/DRIVES 2004

EtherCAT Technology Group continues to grow

EtherCAT becomes IEC specification

At the end of February, EtherCAT became an official IEC specification (PAS, Publicly Available Specification) with 96% of the votes from IEC member states. In future, the EtherCAT specification will therefore also be available via the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission). This is a very clear demonstration of the openness of EtherCAT technology! Via the EtherCAT website members of the EtherCAT Technology Group have access to the specification and other helpful documents relating to EtherCAT.

Beyond this highly significant standardization step, EtherCAT will also be introduced in other international standards. For example, EtherCAT is currently being introduced in the IEC 61784-2 standard (Digital data communications for measurement and control – Part 2: Additional profiles for ISO/IEC 8802-3 based communication networks in real-time applications), which is being developed with involvement by ETG experts. EtherCAT technology will also be integrated in the next version of the international fieldbus standard, IEC 61158. ISO (International Standardization Organization) includes EtherCAT in the ISO 15745 standard - voting on this is currently under way.

The close co-operation of the EtherCAT Technology Group with international standardization committees is thus bearing fruit: In August 2004 the IEC recognized the ETG as an official standardization partner with the same status as PNO or ODVA, for example.

ETG is now the largest organization for Industrial Ethernet in the world

The popularity of the EtherCAT Technology Group is unabated. With more than 170 members the ETG is now the largest organization for Industrial Ethernet in the world. Martin Rostan, Beckhoff product manager and Executive Director of ETG, said: "We are pleased that the EtherCAT Technology Group is now the largest Industrial Ethernet organization in the world. The strong growth of the ETG reflects the tremendous interest in EtherCAT technology. Manufacturers and users recognize the benefits offered by EtherCAT: Future-proof performance, flexible network topology, simple configuration, and low costs. Nevertheless, while the number of members is an important criterion for the success of a technology organization, it is not the crucial one. During the current phase, acceptance of the technology resulting in concrete product developments is even more important. Here too, the ETG and Beckhoff are very successful: About 80 implementation kits (master and slave) have already been sold, and more than 30 companies have already presented or announced products."

→ EtherCAT Technology Group
www.ethercat.org



Industrial Ethernet seminar series

Experience EtherCAT locally: At the end of April the EtherCAT Technology Group will hold Industrial Ethernet seminars in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The seminars are sponsored by well-known companies and will offer an overview of the different Ethernet "flavors" and also provide a detailed introduction to EtherCAT, of course. The seminars are aimed at users and device manufacturers faced with a decision on the next generation of their network technology.

The following events have been scheduled:

Monday, April 25, 2005 Hanover/Germany
 Tuesday, April 26, 2005 Stuttgart/Germany
 Wednesday, April 27, 2005 Zurich/Switzerland
 Thursday, April 28, 2005 Linz/Austria
 Friday, April 29, 2005 Nuremberg/Germany

In addition, at the end of May there will be a series of events in the USA (Chicago, IL, Detroit, MI, Charlotte, NC, Atlanta, GA).

The following topics will be discussed:

- | Ethernet overview: CSMA/CD, TCP/IP, etc.
- | Comparison of Industrial Ethernet solutions: Modbus/TCP, PROFINET, Ethernet/IP + CIPsync, Powerlink, SERCOSIII, EtherCAT
- | EtherCAT – the Ethernet fieldbus
- | Motion control with EtherCAT
- | Safety over EtherCAT
- | Simple implementation: effort, costs, tools
- | Trouble-free migration? From fieldbus to EtherCAT
- | From theory to practice: EtherCAT in action

→ Further information + online registration:
www.ethercat.org/seminar2005



Hanover Fair 2005: EtherCAT Technology Group presents EtherCAT products and solutions

The 2004 SPS/IPC/DRIVES fair in Nuremberg/Germany was the first event where ETG had its own stand, presenting EtherCAT products from various manufacturers and a concrete EtherCAT application. A total of 28 member companies were presented at the ETG stand and announced associated products. Numerous EtherCAT implementations involve both the master side and the slave side.

At the Factory Automation section of the Hannover fair ETG will once again be present with its own 80 sqm stand. 30 ETG members will present EtherCAT products and complete system solutions covering drive technology, sensors, I/O systems, gateways, interfaces, tools, etc.



→ ETG stand at the Hanover Fair:
 Hall 9, Booth F13