



## ETG

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

## 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. The ETG has 120 members in Asia.

At the EtherCAT Technology Group booth at the System Control Fair in Tokyo – the Japanese equivalent to the SPS/IPC/DRIVES trade 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 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 suppliers for EtherCAT technology. Thus EtherCAT is establishing itself as 'Japanese' Fieldbus Technology as well."



## EtherCAT Plugfest with international attendance

The 5<sup>th</sup> EtherCAT Plugfest, hosted by Baumüller in Nuremberg, Germany, was well attended: 10 master and 22 slave device vendors from Europe, Asia and North America tested and proved the interoperability of their devices. The technical focus of this Plugfest

was the CiA402 Implementation Guideline for Servo Drives and the Modular Device Profile, which enables the easy integration and configuration of such modular products into EtherCAT networks.