

EtherCAT team is strengthened

→ Dr. Karl Weber joined the Beckhoff EtherCAT team on March 1, 2005. He is already well known in the fieldbus scene through his long-standing involvement as leading technical expert with PNO.

Karl Weber is a computer scientist and has been involved in the development of PROFIBUS and PROFINET right from the start. He led various PNO working groups and has been a member of different IEC committees. Weber is editor of the PROFIBUS part of fieldbus standard IEC 61158 and co-author of the PROFINET book "The Rapid Way to PROFINET". He is also a member of IEEE 802.1 and the IEEE 1588 Working Group. His previous

work focused on protocol and ASIC specification, and on technical consultancy.

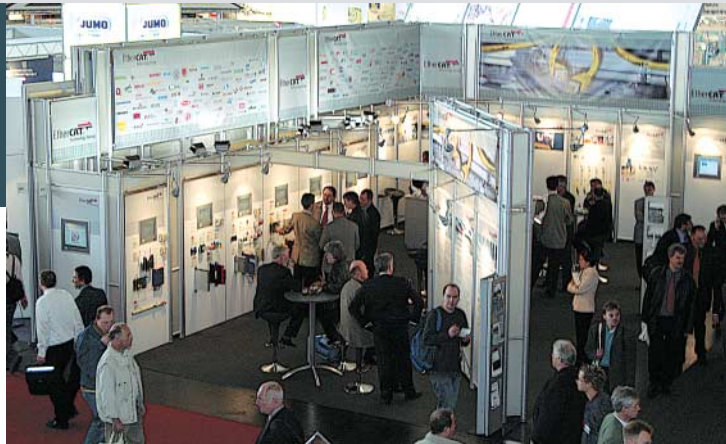
Along with Martin Rostan and Michael Jost, Karl Weber will now promote the standardization and worldwide acceptance of EtherCAT technology. "I decided to become involved with Beckhoff because the company offers huge creative potential with unique opportunity for growth," Karl Weber said.



Dr. Karl Weber strengthens the Beckhoff EtherCAT team.

"EtherCAT is the pre-eminent communication technology for automation applications, and I look forward to co-operating and sharing experience with EtherCAT device manufacturers and users."

Dr. Karl Weber will work on the further development of EtherCAT from the Nuremberg branch in Germany and will also offer support for ETG partners.



EtherCAT in motion at Hanover fair 2005 in Germany: The ETG has its own booth and presented EtherCAT products from various manufacturers, as well as a concrete EtherCAT application.

Industrial Ethernet seminar

Detailed technical information: This was the focus of the Industrial Ethernet seminar series organized by the EtherCAT Technology Group. End of April seminars in Germany, Switzerland and Austria were in the agenda, end of May the events took place in the USA. The attendees – showed up in Hanover, Stuttgart, Zurich, Linz, Nuremberg, Chicago, Atlanta, Charlotte and Detroit – exceeded the expectations. The seminar series was sponsored by the companies Baumüller, Beckhoff, Danaher Motion, Moog, MTS, SEW and Tenasys, which clearly showed that EtherCAT is supported by a wide vendor basis.

After an introduction in Ethernet and the Internet protocols and the EtherCAT introduction a comparison of various industrial Ethernet technologies was presented – which was of particular interest for the participants. The functional principles and features of the different systems were introduced and compared with respect to their technical data. The presentations about master and slave implementations aimed primarily at device manufacturers, before the seminar was completed with talks on migration strategies from fieldbus to EtherCAT and application examples.

→ EtherCAT Technology Group www.ethercat.org