



EtherCAT at Hanover Fair 2006

At the joint EtherCAT booth, 42 manufacturers presented EtherCAT products and innovations. A special highlight was the multi-vendor demonstration of 11 different EtherCAT masters using 8 different operating systems, which showed a diversity that is unrivalled in the market. EtherCAT-supported drive applications were also on show, with a large variety of axes in motion.

A further highlight was a demonstration of tool access to a running EtherCAT network: From a commissioning engineer's notebook computer, the master providing transparent access to the device in the network can be accessed via UPD/IP. Existing manufacturer tools can be connected to this interface quite easily. This access method is an alternative to TCP/IP based communication with slave devices, which is supported by EtherCAT as well, but requires a lot more resources on the slave side.

At the show, several configuration tools were shown as well as slave device implementation kits and evaluation components from different suppliers. Safety over EtherCAT and the redundancy option were also demonstrated.

→ Further exhibitions:
www.ethercat.org

