



EtherCAT at SEMICON West in San Francisco

ETG had its own exhibition booth at SEMICON West, the main trade fair for the semiconductor industry. EtherCAT is receiving a great deal of attention from this sector – not least because existing networks can be integrated seamlessly in an EtherCAT environment so that an elegant route for migration to EtherCAT is available. Consequently, the multi-vendor demonstration picked up this benefit and illustrated the integration of typical chip manufacturing devices. EtherCAT enables integration of previously separate tasks such as Motion Control, process control and safety in a single technology.

EtherCAT in Austria: ETG also had its own exhibition booth at Vienna-Tec, the main automation fair in Austria this year. The main focus was on a multi-vendor demonstration involving controllers and drives from several manufacturers. Two EtherCAT networks with different master implementations were synchronized via switchport terminals.

ETG News



EtherCAT in Japan: After the U.S.A. and Korea, the first implementation workshop to be held in Japan took place in October. The event in Tokyo was well received – after all it had been prompted by the Japanese ETG member companies.

SEMI standardization of EtherCAT initiated

The Information & Control Committee of SEMI agreed to initiate the SEMI standardization process for EtherCAT. SEMI is the leading standardization association for the semiconductor industry. The work is carried out by SEMI's North American sensor bus task group. Voting on the standard is expected to be completed by summer 2007.

EtherCAT in China: With its own exhibition booth and several presentations during the associated congress, EtherCAT was well represented at the FA/PA fair in Beijing.

EtherCAT in international standardization: IEC/CDV 61784-2 adopted

With unanimous agreement from IEC member states ("P members") the vote turned out to be very successful for the CDV (Committee Draft for Vote). EtherCAT is part of this standard, which specifies profiles for Ethernet-based communication networks in real-time applications. The positive result means that IEC 61784-2 now moves to the FDIS (Final Draft International Standard) stage. Publication as an international standard (IS) is expected for mid-2007.



Third EtherCAT Plugfest

The third ETG Plugfest took place in early October, hosted by SEW-Eurodrive in Bruchsal, Germany. The Plugfest brings together slave devices and master implementations from different manufacturers in order to verify or improve interoperability. The good news: everyone was able to talk to anyone.

→ EtherCAT Technology Group www.ethercat.org