

EtherCAT Technology Group: success in Japan continues

This year's visit in Yokohama, Japan, was – just like last year – once again marked by considerable success for the EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG). During the EtherCAT Technology Update as well as the 2013 Japanese EtherCAT Plug Fest, numerous participants learned about the latest technology trends and received helpful EtherCAT development support from the EtherCAT experts on-site.

The first of the ETG activities in Japan was the annual EtherCAT Technology Update, an event, which informs its participants – mainly developers and product managers of EtherCAT devices – about the latest results and developments within ETG's technical working groups as well as news and trends of EtherCAT technology in general. "This year special interest was given to the results of ETG's SEMI TWG, the working group which recently received widespread publicity due to its specification of new device profiles for the semiconductor industry," explains Dr. Guido Beckmann, Chairman of the ETG Technical Committee and main presenter of the event. Additionally, the about 45 attendees received details about EtherCAT in mobile applications and the Safety over EtherCAT (FSoE) Conformance Test Tool from the ETG which has been certified by TÜV not long ago.

The next day the EtherCAT Technology Group invited developers and manufacturers of EtherCAT devices to its 2013 Japanese EtherCAT Plug Fest which also took place in Yokohama, more precisely at the facilities of Beckhoff Automation located there. A total of 32 participants from 14 different companies met in the frame of the event to test their five master and 18 slave devices for interoperability by using ETG's Conformance Test Tool. Furthermore, the manufacturers had the possibility to clear open questions regarding the implementation of EtherCAT with the experts on-site. At this event, too, the new device profiles of the SEMI TWG stated above played a major role: Although those were published just a few months ago, devices for the semiconductor industry that support the new profiles were already tested successfully during the event.

Press picture



Picture caption:

Active exchange at the 2013 Japanese EtherCAT Plug Fest in Yokohama, Japan.

About EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG):

The EtherCAT Technology Group is an organization in which key user companies from various industries and leading automation suppliers join forces to support, promote and advance the EtherCAT technology. With over 2,500 members from 56 countries the EtherCAT Technology Group has become the largest fieldbus organization in the world. Founded in November 2003, it is also the fastest growing fieldbus organization.

About EtherCAT[®]:

EtherCAT is the Industrial Ethernet technology which stands for high-performance, low-cost, easy to use with a flexible topology. It was introduced in 2003 and has been an international standard since 2007. The EtherCAT Technology Group promotes EtherCAT and is responsible for its continued development. EtherCAT is an open technology: anyone is allowed to implement or use it.

➔ For further information please see: www.ethercat.org

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