Press Release

SPS IPC Drives 2013: Celebrating 10 years of the EtherCAT Technology Group

This year's SPS IPC Drives in Nuremberg, Germany, holds a very personal milestone for the EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG): Exactly 10 years ago the organization began its activities at the 2003 trade show with 33 official founding members. Almost in perfect timing with this anniversary, the ETG recently reached yet another milestone: the Chinese machine manufacturer Sany Heavy Industry Co., Ltd. has become the 2,500th ETG member.

After EtherCAT as a technology already celebrated its 10th anniversary at this year's Hannover Fair, it is now the EtherCAT Technology Group's turn. Since its foundation in November 2003, the organization stands for the approach that everyone should be able to use and implement EtherCAT. The success of this vision speaks for itself: Almost in perfect timing with the 10th anniversary of the organization, the ETG has reached another significant membership milestone. During a ceremony held at the Industrial Automation Show 2013 in Shanghai, representatives of the ETG honored the Chinese company, Sany Heavy Industry Co., Ltd. as member number 2,500. Sany is one of the big manufacturers of mobile machines, an area in which EtherCAT technology has gained traction during the past year.

Looking to the future of the organization, the EtherCAT Technology Group team plans to continue opening up new regional and vertical markets. Martin Rostan, Executive Director of the EtherCAT Technology Group, explains: "The remarkable success of the past 10 years shows that we were right with our strategy and could even convince entire industries to standardize on EtherCAT. The semiconductor manufacturing industry, for example, made its decision in favor of EtherCAT as a system bus for a new generation of silicon wafers. On a regional level we also achieved some significant results: In Japan, for example, EtherCAT is the only fieldbus technology that is not from Japan but has become a de facto standard there." From the technical point of view the ETG will continue to expand with further device profiles which lead to manufacturer-independent interfaces.

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EtherCAT
Technology Group

Press pictures

Picture caption:

Almost perfectly in time with the ETG's 10th anniversary, the organization honored the 2,500th member at an event in Shanghai: (from left) Yuan Aijin, Yan Xin (Sany), Beryl Fan (ETG China) and Yang Guoxun (Sany).

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 IEC standard and a SEMI standard since 2007. EtherCAT is an open technology: anyone can implement or use it.

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

Press contact:

EtherCAT Technology Group
Christiane Heubusch
Ostendstraße 196
90482 Nuremberg
Germany

Tel.: +49 (0) 9 11 / 5 40 56 226
Fax: +49 (0) 9 11 / 5 40 56 29
c.heubusch@ethercat.org
www.ethercat.org/press