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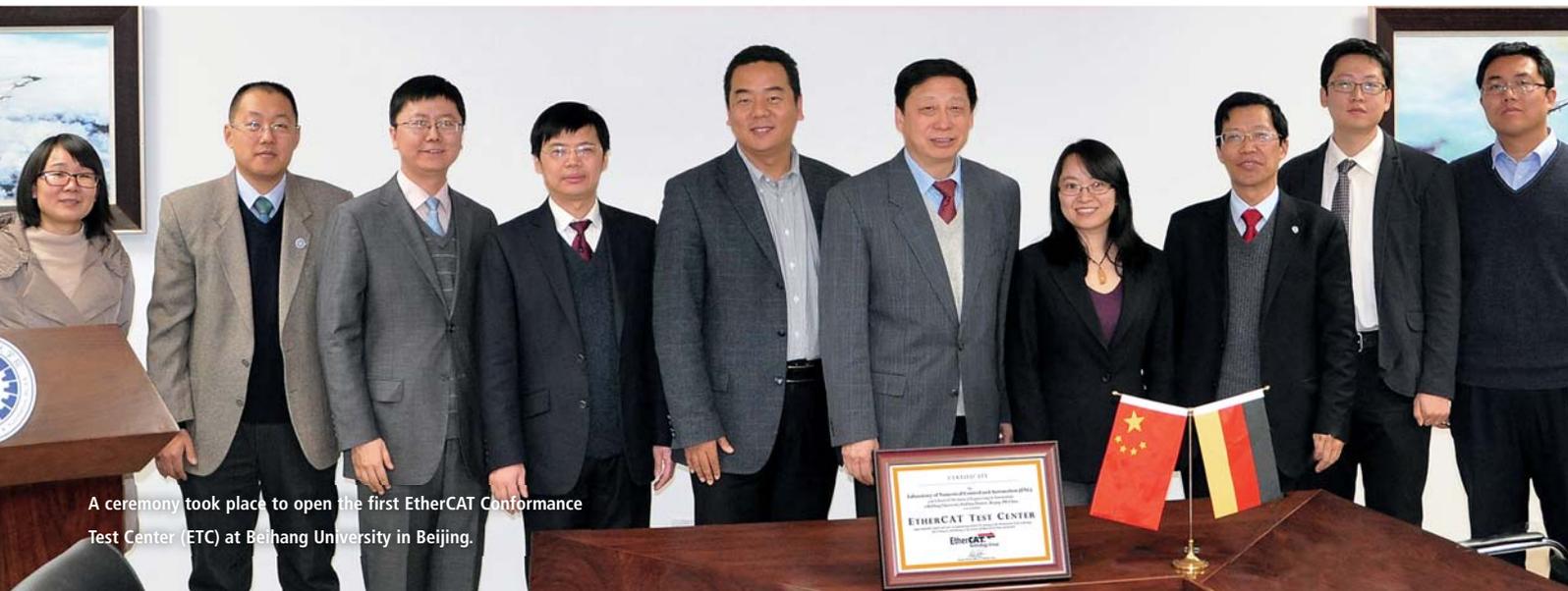
D-type Liaison for active participation in the IEC SC22G MT16 Working Group

IEC extends partnership with ETG

With the extension of the D-type Liaison partnership to include the IEC SC22G MT16 Working Group, the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) now enables active participation in the maintenance program for Part 7-xxx of the IEC 61800 series.

Dr. Guido Beckmann, chairman of ETG's Technical Committee, serves as representative of the organization in the MT16 Working Group, which deals with device profiles for drive systems, such as servo controllers, frequency converters or stepper motor controllers. He said: "With our participation we strive to continue and strengthen our active contribution to the standards maintained by SC22G MT16, e.g. to the next edition of IEC 61800-7. Since the first release of this standard, the mapping of the drive profiles CiA402 and SERCOS to the EtherCAT technology was part of the specification."

The ETG regards worldwide standardization of device profiles as a particularly important measure for unification of the device implementation. Open control architectures and a reduction of the integration effort are among the main aims of the organization.



A ceremony took place to open the first EtherCAT Conformance Test Center (ETC) at Beihang University in Beijing.

Official opening at the Laboratory of Numerical Control and Automation (LNC)

ETG establishes EtherCAT Test Center in China

The ETG recently opened the first EtherCAT Test Center (ETC) in China. Guests of honor at the ceremony, which took place in the new main building at Beihang University in Beijing, were the dean and the vice dean of the Beihang School of Mechanical & Engineering Automation, Prof. Gang Zhao and Prof. Zhenggan Zhou.

Dr. Yanqiang Liu is the ETC director and is responsible for conformance tests. He spent six months at Beckhoff in Germany to study the technology in detail.

Together with co-author Prof. Ji Huan he wrote the Chinese edition of the EtherCAT handbook.

LNC joined the ETG in 2005. In 2010 it was awarded EtherCAT Competence Center status. Beryl Fan, manager of the ETG office China, is delighted: "Establishing the ETC at Beihang University is a strategic step that supports the continued work of the ETG in China. Now we can meet the requirements of local device manufacturers with official EtherCAT Conformance Tests in China."

Users and manufacturers attend ETG event

Full house at “EtherCAT in Mobile Applications”

The ETG had invited to its “EtherCAT in Mobile Applications” kick-off event, which took place this past February in Frankfurt. A total of 115 users and manufacturers of mobile machines received hands-on information relating to the special features and challenges of mobile applications of EtherCAT communication, automating mobile machines, condition monitoring, test systems and functional safety. Dr. Guido Beckmann from the ETG managed the event and was one of the speakers. According to Dr. Beckmann: “Mobile applications are increasingly complex and the demand for energy efficiency and yield rates are rising. Integration of cameras, web applications and fast control loops require shorter cycle times and more bandwidth. With its outstanding performance and flexibility, EtherCAT – as the ‘Ethernet fieldbus’ – is predestined to meet those needs.”

ETG Executive Director, Martin Rostan was also among the speakers as were representatives from companies such as 3S-Smart Software Solutions GmbH, Beckhoff Automation, BIBA, Broadcom, dSPACE, John Deere, TÜV Süd and Vector Informatik. Application examples provided additional insights into the practical application of EtherCAT in mobile machines.



A whole-day ETG kick-off event on February 6th, 2013 provided delegates with comprehensive information on the application of EtherCAT in mobile applications.

ZF Friedrichshafen is EtherCAT Technology Group member no. 2,000



ZF Friedrichshafen was recently welcomed as the landmark 2,000th member of the ETG.

Last year the ETG reached a further significant milestone in its history: in the summer of 2012, ZF Friedrichshafen AG (ZF) became the 2,000th member of the organization. The official presentation ceremony recently took place in Friedrichshafen, Germany.

Martin Rostan, the ETG’s Executive Director who, in line with tradition, handed over the trophy and the official certificate, said: “We are happy to welcome ZF as a valued addition to the circle of ETG members. The fact that we broke the 2,000 member mark is clear evidence for the widespread acceptance EtherCAT has reached during the past 10 years.” Rüdiger Ammann, head of FC test bench management for ZF Group, commented on the ETG membership of ZF as one of the world’s leading suppliers to the automotive industry: “We joined the ETG due to EtherCAT’s high flexibility and performance. EtherCAT is becoming an important part of our automation system for control and data acquisition on our test benches.”

The rapid spread of EtherCAT technology underscores the continuous development of the ETG: Since ZF joined the group numerous other new members have joined. The ETG currently has more than 2,300 members from 56 countries.