Press Release

Flying high with EtherCAT

Even 12 years after its introduction, the worldwide expansion of EtherCAT continues. One indicator for its success is the increasing number of members of the EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG), which is at almost 3,500. Thus raising an EtherCAT flag at the Thorong La pass in the Himalayas recently is symbolic of the development of the technology.

The success story of EtherCAT continues: since its introduction at the SPS IPC Drives 2003 in Nuremberg, Germany, the technology practically circumnavigated the whole world and made its way into numerous industries and companies. Even if raising the EtherCAT flag at the Thorong La pass in the Himalayas does not automatically mean that the technology is used in this remote area of the world, it is still symbolic of the widespread expansion of EtherCAT.

EtherCAT's success is based not least on the active work of the EtherCAT Technology Group whose 25 team members at 5 locations promote, develop and support the technology all over the world. With almost 3,500 member companies from 58 countries and 6 continents, the ETG is not only the world's largest fieldbus user organization but also truly globally active. Although a huge number of the members comes from Europe, the figures in the rest of the world are also impressive. With 1,200 members, more than a third of the ETG members come from Asia, the fastest growing member region. Growth has also been seen in the United States where the ETG recently crossed the 400 member mark. It is not only the number of members that shows the global growth of EtherCAT technology, but also the product variety, which has no equal in the Industrial Ethernet market. There are over 500 different drives with EtherCAT interfaces from 150 different manufacturers, 189 manufacturers offer controls with EtherCAT master functionality and more than 100 manufacturers offer around 1000 different EtherCAT I/O devices.

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Picture:

Picture caption:

Flying high with EtherCAT: The Korean ETG representative Key Yoo reached the 5.416 meters high Thorong La pass in the Himalayas recently.

About EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG):

The EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG) is an association in which key user companies from various industries and leading automation suppliers join forces to support, promote and advance the EtherCAT technology. With over 3,400 members from 58 countries, the EtherCAT Technology Group has become the largest fieldbus organization in the world. Founded in November 2003, it is also the fastest growing association of its kind.

About EtherCAT®:

EtherCAT is the fastest Industrial Ethernet technology and stands for high-performance, low-cost, ease of use and a flexible topology. It was introduced in 2003 and became an international standard and a SEMI standard in 2007. The EtherCAT Technology Group promotes EtherCAT and is responsible for its continued development. EtherCAT is also an open technology: anyone is allowed to implement or use it.

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

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