

The ETG Gains One New Member Every Business Day

The growth rate of the EtherCAT Technology Group is further accelerating. In the last 12 months membership of the worldwide group increased by 250 – an average of one new member every business day.

There are 732 companies from 41 countries listed on the membership roster. The member distribution shows the migration from a primarily German to a truly global association. At the end of 2003, 70 % of the 35 founding members were from Germany. Today the percentage of German members is down to 38 %. The US has the second highest percentage of members, followed by Japan, Switzerland and Italy. In Asia, the ETG now has 123 members, and most of its regional offices, in Tokyo, Beijing and Seoul. The group is managed from Nuremberg, Germany, and since 2007 there has been a regional office in Austin, Texas, USA.

In addition to the fast growing membership figure, the number of EtherCAT implementations is quickly increasing. Today over 550 implementation kits have been sold altogether. Over 150 master stacks have been sold in addition to the free of charge downloads from open source EtherCAT master websites.

Thirty-three vendors have already introduced servo drives with an EtherCAT interface, and more are under development. EtherCAT, in this respect, has already caught up with the market leading fieldbus systems of the previous generation.

Therefore, the performance of the EtherCAT Technology Group is like the technology itself. EtherCAT is the performance benchmark for leading industrial technologies and for establishing widespread industry acceptance.

EtherCAT Technology Group

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The **EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG)** 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 730 members, the EtherCAT Technology Group has become the largest organization in the world that is exclusively focused on Industrial Ethernet technologies. Founded in November 2003, it is also currently the fastest growing fieldbus organization.

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EtherCAT sets new standards for real-time performance and topology flexibility, whilst meeting or undercutting fieldbus cost levels. EtherCAT features include high precision device synchronization, a cable redundancy option, and a functional safety protocol (SIL3).

➔ ETG booth at Hanover Fair: **Hall 9, Booth F13**

For further information please see www.ethercat.org