

CC-Link IE and CC-Link help cable manufacturer get established in Asia



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Global cable manufacturing company Helukabel has used CC-Link technologies to help its Asian operations build strong foundations in China and other growing markets in the region.

Helukabel is a manufacturer and supplier of cables, wires and accessories with operations all over the world. Founded in Germany in 1978, its product portfolio of over 33 000 in-stock line items, along with custom cable solutions, allows it to supply state-of-the-art connectivity systems for industrial, infrastructure and office applications. Helukabel's manufactures over a million kilometres of cables a year.

With Asian markets becoming more and more important, Helukabel set up an operation in Taicang, near Shanghai, one of China's key industrial centres.



"We were well aware the importance of CC-Link IE and CC-Link in the Asian market for industrial control," says Jürgen Berger, Helukabel's Senior Manager for Data, Network and Bus technologies. "So in 2013 we approached the CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) to see if they could offer assistance or insight into the region."

CC-Link IE and CC-Link form a comprehensive open network architecture that allows devices from many different manufacturers to communicate. It reaches from enterprise IT connectivity to simple digital I/O on the shop floor. CC-Link IE is also the only open gigabit Ethernet technology for automation today, linking both controller and field devices throughout a plant.

Both were originally developed in Japan and quickly became established there. Its developers released the technical specification into the public domain, via the CLPA, so that any company can manufacture compatible products and potential users have access to comprehensive information.

Today these networks are in effect the de facto standard for open networks and the technology of choice for nearly all control engineers in China, Japan and other countries of Asia. It is available in several different formats, including the gigabit industrial Ethernet version, CC-Link IE, which is ideal for Industry 4.0 and other advanced applications.

Berger says that joining the CLPA has helped develop Helukabel's business in Asia and that having a connection CC-Link is important in the region. He discusses his views and experiences in a video presentation, viewable on the CLPA's You Tube channel, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOkTw_b7tHQ

Caption: Helukabel is a manufacturer and supplier of cables, wires and accessories with operations all over the world.

About the CLPA

The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) is an international organisation with over 2,600 member companies worldwide. The partners' common objective is promotion and technical development of the family of CC-Link open automation network technologies. Over 1,500 certified products are now available from more than 300 manufacturers. CC-Link is the leading open industrial automation network technology in Asia and is becoming increasingly popular in Europe and the Americas. The CLPA's main initiative for Europe is the Gateway to Asia (G2A) programme, which helps European businesses develop their Asian business further. More details are at www.cc-link-g2a.com

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