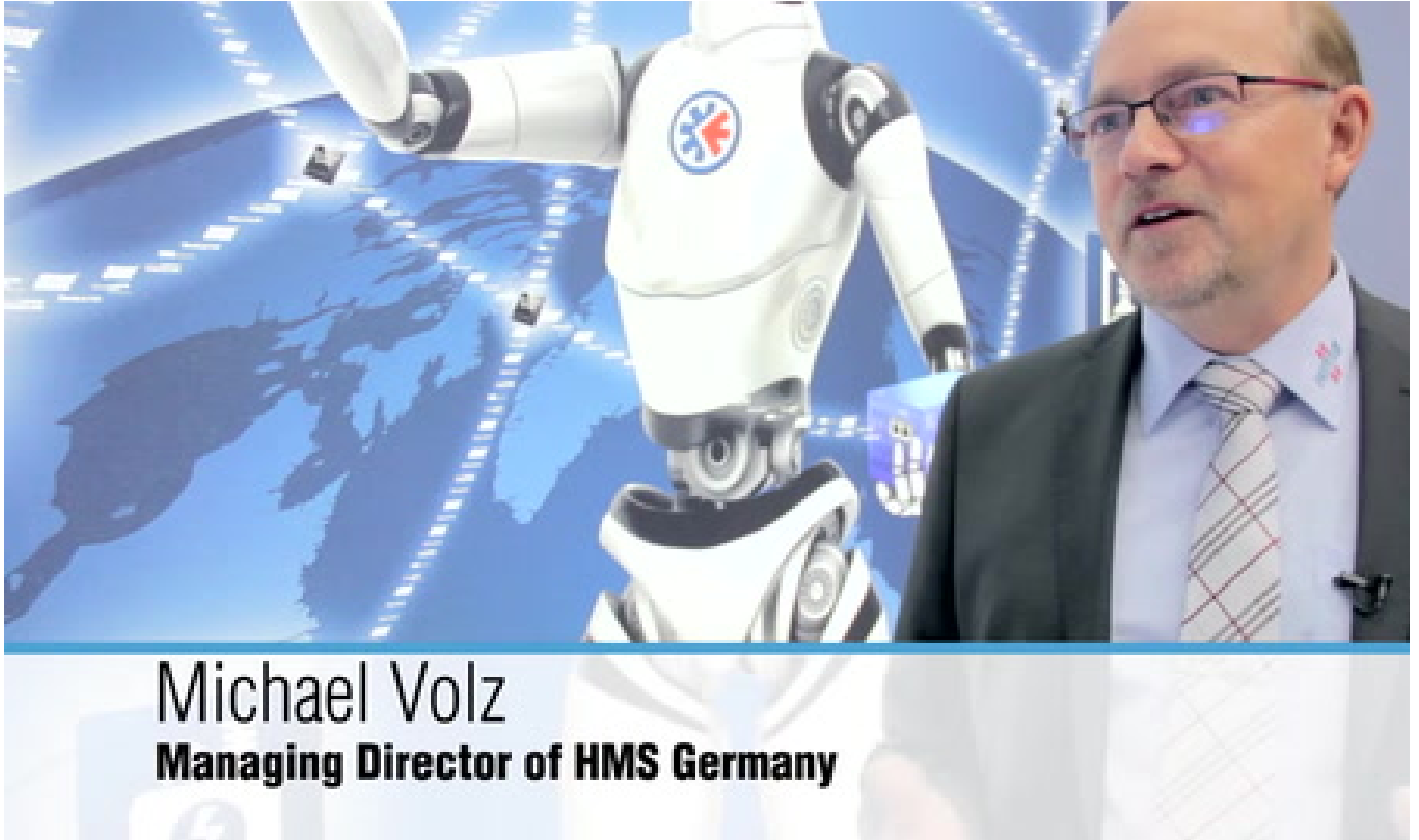


HMS Managing Director Michael Volz talks about working with multiple networks and growth in Asia



Michael Volz
Managing Director of HMS Germany

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"Connectivity for control and communications is becoming more and more important as industrial companies move towards more integrated systems, the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) and Industry 4.0 (I4.0)."

Says Michael Volz, Managing Director of HMS's German operations, on a video released by the CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA).



There are a vast number of Industrial Ethernet and fieldbus options available to control engineers, which has led to a requirement for communications interfaces to link the different technologies. HMS Industrial Networks specialises in making such interfaces, either for embedding within automation devices or as gateways.

"Our Anybus range of gateways allows devices such as robots, sensors and controllers to be connected to different industrial networks – whether fieldbus or Ethernet," explains Volz. "This assists with the increasing trend to integrate systems to improve overall efficiency and productivity."

HMS is an active member of the CLPA, which supports both fieldbus and industrial Ethernet technologies. The CLPA's fieldbus technology, CC-Link, is well established around the world, and is particularly strong in Asia. Its Ethernet solution, CC-Link IE (industrial Ethernet), is the only open industrial Ethernet technology that provides gigabit speeds and hence the highest levels of productivity.

"HMS works with the CLPA in a number of different ways," says Volz, "particularly in Europe and Japan, but also elsewhere in the world. Our growth in the Asian market has been particularly strong, thanks to the relationship."

The two organisations have often collaborated on promotional events such as seminars and presentations. HMS has also made a significant development investment by offering a range of CC-Link IE and CC-Link products.

"Connectivity is now the key feature that every device needs to ensure the productivity of the manufacturing systems they are part of," Volz states. "In short we are helping customers move towards the IIoT and I4.0."

"Our positive and active relationship with the CLPA helps us to understand the requirements of control engineers, particularly those working in discrete manufacture."

To find out more, take a look at the [video](#).

Image captions:

Picture 1: Michael Volz, Managing Director of HMS's German operations

Picture 2: HMS has made a significant development investment by offering a range of CC-Link IE and CC-Link products



About the CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA)

The CLPA is an international organization founded in 2000 dedicated to the technical development and promotion of the CC-Link family of open automation networks. The CLPA's key technology is CC-Link IE, the world's first and only open gigabit Ethernet for automation and an ideal solution for Industry 4.0 applications due to its unmatched bandwidth. Currently the CLPA has over 2,800 member companies worldwide, with more than 1,500 certified products available from over 300 manufacturers. CC-Link is the leading open industrial automation network technology in Asia and is becoming increasingly popular in Europe and the Americas.

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