



CC-Link celebrates its 10th anniversary as an open network

November 2010 represents something of a milestone for CC-Link as the network technology celebrates its 10th anniversary. Over the last decade CC-Link has become a global favourite as a high speed, highly robust open network, with a rapidly growing market share in all regions. Marking this increased presence, and heralding a new identity as "The Non-Stop Open Network™" in recognition of the high availability that CC-Link delivers, CLPA has its largest ever stand at the SPS/IPC/DRIVES Fair, with displays from many of its partner companies, including Weidmüller, HMS Industrial Networks, Hilscher, and Mitsubishi Electric.

Weidmüller, a leading international provider of solutions for electrical connectivity, transmission and conditioning of power, signal and data in industrial environments, supports CC-Link IE connection technology with its robust and high speed connectivity solutions for up to 1 Gigabit Ethernet.

The Industrial Ethernet passive network infrastructure portfolio is an application-focused solution of industrial connectivity for Ethernet communication. It offers the broadest product range for Industrial Ethernet connectivity, combined with the best services, piloted by the latest technology. IE passive provides a unique range of RJ45, M12 and fibre- optic connectors, as well as customised and moulded cord sets with these interfaces.

HMS Industrial Networks is presenting an embedded gigabit Ethernet interface module for CC-Link IE Field level – the Anybus-S for CC-Link IE Field level. The different CC-Link protocols are fundamental for the Asian and Japanese market – and supporting these networks is a core part of the Anybus® product strategy offering flexible, proven and trusted solutions for CC-Link and all other major networks.

Hilscher will be displaying their netX Network Evaluation Board NXEB 100-NET. This conformance tested device supports both CC-Link Remote Device and Remote I/O capabilities and integrates multiple capabilities including two Ethernet channels. For companies looking to develop CC-Link devices, Hilscher also offers their netX Design Service for implementing a CC-Link interface at fixed time and cost.

Mitsubishi Electric, a global leader in automation technology with a comprehensive portfolio of solutions across a wide array of industries and applications, is a key supporter of the CC-Link network architecture. Mitsubishi Electric offers comprehensive connectivity as a core feature of all its automation product lines.

CC-Link ticks all the boxes for automation systems suppliers and users alike, by offering fieldbus, bit-bus, safety and industrial Ethernet variants. Originated by the global automation business of Mitsubishi Electric, CC-Link is the de-facto standard for automation networks in Asia. And with its rapidly increasing acceptance worldwide, CC-Link is unrivalled for global manufacturers looking to implement a single networking standard across multiple sites in multiple regions. As a result it is the network standard for many of the world's best known multi-national industrial corporations.

CC-Link has many performance and availability advantages that make it an ideal choice in today's automated systems. It is a proven, robust and reliable technology that meets the most critical communications requirements in the most challenging of industrial environments. This unrivalled capability has seen CC-Link's globally installed base rise to over 7 million nodes, with an annual growth rate of around 1 million nodes per year.

CLPA numbers over 1,300 partner companies among its members, over 200 of whom have developed compatible products, giving users access to well over 1000 best-of-breed network devices.

As well as making a compelling case as the network of choice in any critical installation, CC-Link is also the ideal standard for any western company looking to create business opportunities in Asia, where many customers want and expect CC-Link as the embedded communications protocol. Building CC-Link into products, control systems and machinery destined for the Asian market is one of the best ways to exploit opportunities in the region. CLPA is actively helping European device manufacturers and OEMs enter Eastern markets through its 'Gateway to Asia' (G2A) programme, which provides assistance with the integration of CC-Link network technology into products and systems, and can even provide marketing support via CLPA branches throughout the region.



Visitors to the **SPS/IPC/DRIVES** Fair can learn more about the benefits of CC-Link technology by visiting the CC-Link Partner Association in **Hall 6, stand number 6-435**.

About the CLPA

The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) is an international organisation with over 1,500 member companies worldwide. The partners' common objective is promotion and technical development of the family of CC-Link open network technologies. Over 1,100 certified products are now available from over 240 manufacturers. CC-Link is the leading industrial fieldbus in Asia and is becoming increasingly popular in Europe and the Americas. The European headquarters is in Germany, with offices throughout the continent.

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