Press Release

sercos
the automation bus

Broader, deeper, more universal – sercos® III specification update now available

sercos international, supplier of the sercos automation bus, released the specification update V1.3.1 for the sercos III real-time Ethernet-based automation bus.

Several specification enhancements have been executed since the last specification release, including updates to the sercos communication protocol and to the different sercos profiles (drive, I/O, encoder and energy). In addition, the mechanisms for the blended infrastructure approach to transmit sercos, TCP/IP and EtherNet/IP frames over a single wire were included. Specification V1.3.1 not only broadens the functionality and range of applications of the globally accepted sercos III real-time standard, but also reflects trends in machine and plant construction. The extensions are fully compatible with the previous specification so that a high level of standardization and the best possible interoperability of devices from different manufacturers can be ensured.

The technical working groups of sercos international have started work on several new functional profiles to further extend the range of sercos III. At the same time, account is being taken of the increasing application diversity in automation. Among the future innovations will be functional profiles for test and measurement, for power sections, for servo drives, and for controller-to-controller communication. Furthermore, a Condition Monitoring profile for service and preventive maintenance of machines and machining systems will be specified. This Condition Monitoring profile will be based on the VDMA standard entitled "Fieldbus-neutral reference architecture for condition monitoring systems in factory automation", which will be published soon. In addition, further results from the cooperative machinery initiative of sercos, ODVA and the OPC Foundation will be considered.

About sercos international

sercos international is an association of users and manufacturers that is in charge of technical development, standardization, conformance inspection, certification, and marketing for the sercos® automation bus. Conformance tests ensure that the implementation of sercos is in accordance with standards and thus allows the combination and integration of devices from different manufacturers. Based in Germany, the organization presently has more than 70 member companies located around the world, and has liaison offices in North America and Asia.

About sercos

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The SErial Realtime COmmunication System, or sercos®, is one of the world's leading digital interfaces for communication between controls, drives, and decentralized peripheral devices. sercos has been used in machine engineering for more than 20 years and is implemented in over 3.5 million real-time nodes. With its open, manufacturer-independent Ethernet-based architecture, sercos III is a universal bus for all automation solutions.

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