

EtherCAT Technology Group: Face-to-face events are back!

After the pandemic brought things to an abrupt halt, most business events are now starting again in Europe in a face-to-face format and with an active participation of the EtherCAT Technology Group.

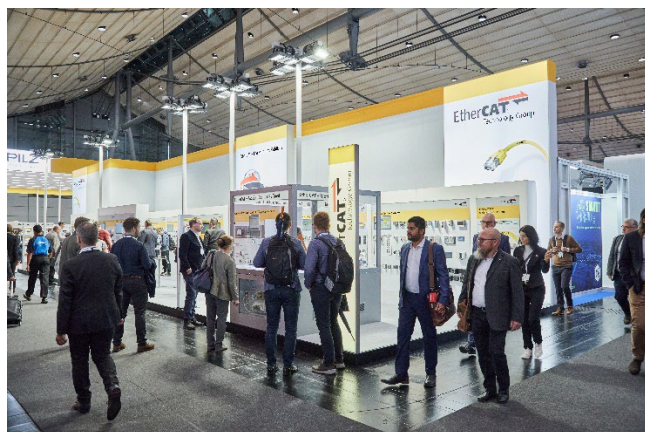
The first event was the trade fair SPS Italia in Parma, where the ETG has been presenting the EtherCAT technology at its booth for 10 years. And already here it became clear what had been missing in the previous two years: although a lot of information can be shared online and one can also reach those who cannot come to the fair, a webinar cannot replace the direct exchange on site.

ETG was again at the Hannover Messe, which was postponed to the beginning of June: 48 co-exhibitors with more than 500 different EtherCAT products were represented at ETG Joint Booth. Although the strongly international event saw fewer attendees, largely due to the general travel restrictions, the number of visitors at the ETG booth was comparable to 2019.

At the Embedded World trade fair in Nuremberg, which was also postponed to June, there was again a real trade fair feeling: good attendance, many discussions, and great interest in EtherCAT also as an embedded bus system. The fair is a meeting point for developers, so the questions about EtherCAT are often very implementation specific. It is good that there are many technology experts in the ETG team who can meet the development engineers at eye level and support their projects.

The EtherCAT developer compatibility meetings – commonly called "Plug Fests" – had to be replaced by online interoperability test weeks in 2021. The format, which alternated a full week of webinars, expert meetings and remote test sessions, was extremely well received by ETG members. Nevertheless, the 45 attendees at the first "real" Plug Fest since 2019 were happy to meet again "IRL" (in real life, that is). The European EtherCAT Plug Fest took place in early July, hosted this time by Weidmüller in Paderborn, Germany. Further Plug Fests are planned this year in the USA and Japan.

Press picture 1:



Picture caption: EtherCAT Booth at Hannover Messe 2022

Link: www.ethercat.org/images/press/etg_082022_1.jpg

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Press picture 2:



Picture caption: EtherCAT Plug Fest Europe

Link: www.ethercat.org/images/press/etg_082022_2.jpg

About EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG):

The EtherCAT Technology Group 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 6.700 members from 69 countries the EtherCAT Technology Group is the largest fieldbus organization in the world. Founded in November 2003, it is also the fastest growing fieldbus organization.

About EtherCAT®:

EtherCAT is the Industrial Ethernet technology which stands for high-performance, low-cost, easy to use with a flexible topology. It was introduced in 2003 and has been an international IEC standard and a SEMI standard since 2007. EtherCAT is an open technology: anyone can implement or use it.

→ For further information please see: www.ethercat.org

Press contact:

EtherCAT Technology Group

Polina Andreeva
Ostendstraße 196
90482 Nuremberg
Germany
Tel.: +49 (911) 5 40 56 226
Fax: +49 (911) 5 40 56 29
press@ethercat.org
www.ethercat.org/press