

## Safety over EtherCAT approved as Chinese National Standard

**The safety technology for EtherCAT, FSoE, is now a recommended National Standard (GB/T) in China, effective October 1, 2018. FSoE, which stands for Fail Safe over EtherCAT but is also known as Safety over EtherCAT, provides integrated functional safety for EtherCAT and other communication technologies. The Chinese National Standard will boost the wide acceptance of EtherCAT even further, as manufacturers, vendors and users can rely on this stable and accepted technology.**

Safety technology has become even more necessary for smart factory applications and automation projects in China, with user requirements for simplified architectures, competitive price points and flexible solutions for functional safety. While increasing safety for personnel on the production floor, FSoE also protects machines, which improves reliability and extends equipment lifecycles.

EtherCAT itself has been a Chinese recommended standard since 2014. With FSoE now also reaching this official status, end users, system integrators and device manufacturers alike have the reassurance that the entire EtherCAT technology ecosystem is fully accepted in China. This development will also further facilitate the implementation and use of Safety over EtherCAT in China and beyond.

“We will continue to educate the market and strengthen awareness about the importance of functional safety for operators, machines and factories,” said Beryl Fan, chief representative of the EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG) in China. “With FSoE technology, we can offer a flexible, user-friendly and cost-effective solution for the market, and the ETG office in China remains ready to provide support in this area.”

Dr. Guido Beckmann, chairman of the ETG Technical Committee, adds: “I am encouraged by the great interest in the important Safety over EtherCAT technology and in Functional Safety in general. These topics are clearly gaining in importance among users and machine builders in China and around the world.”

The FSoE GB/T Standard 36006-2018 was announced during the recent Industrial Automation Show in Shanghai. The standardization process within the Standardization Administration of China (SAC) committee SAC/TC124/SC4 was supported by Instrumentation Technology and Economy Institute (ITEI) and the Chinese ETG team.

ETG has also established an FSoE conformance test center in collaboration with TÜV SÜD China at Beihang University in Beijing to provide additional support for the technology as it continues to be implemented throughout China. ETG also held a Safety over EtherCAT seminar in Shanghai, which provided detailed information about the architecture, technology, implementation and user benefits of FSoE.

Both EtherCAT and FSoE are also international IEC standards, which automatically makes them nationally accepted standards in most countries.

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## Press Picture:



## Picture caption:

Those present for the announcement in the ETG booth included (from left to right) Dr. Guido Beckmann, chairman of the ETG Technical Committee, Mr. Ping Wang, general manager of Suzhou i-COW Intelligent Logistics Technology Co. Ltd, Ms. Beryl Fan, chief representative of ETG China and Mr. Jinsong Ouyang, president of ITEI.

## 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 5,000 members from 65 countries, the EtherCAT Technology Group has become 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](http://www.ethercat.org)

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