

### **EtherCAT and TSN Technical Working Group Kick-Off Meeting**

**The new Technical Working Group (TWG) on EtherCAT and Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN), which was initiated by the EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG), had its first meeting at the end of July. Currently, 16 companies are represented in this TWG, among them two of the world's largest manufacturers of industrial switches, as well as other leading high-tech companies.**

The TWG addresses the interworking of EtherCAT and TSN – a first version of the corresponding profile specification has been available since last year. A special feature of the ETG-proposed future use of TSN is that EtherCAT itself remains unchanged: It is not a new technology version, but an extension, that makes it possible to address EtherCAT segments through heterogeneous TSN networks. The advantages of EtherCAT technology are maintained and combined with the advantages of TSN technology.

The TWG highly values its cooperation with the IEEE 802.1 TSN Task Group (TG) and its formally established partnership with the JWG IEC/IEEE 60802 via a liaison. Many TWG companies also work together in the LNI 4.0 TSN Testbed. This helps achieve conformity not only for the EtherCAT TSN approach, but also to test the joint use of TSN networks with other manufacturers and technologies and address specification gaps. Like the ETG, LNI 4.0 is committed to small and medium-sized device manufacturers and machine builders. As a result, this group will receive an interoperable solution from a large number of providers shortly following the completion of TSN specification.

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### **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 4,900 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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