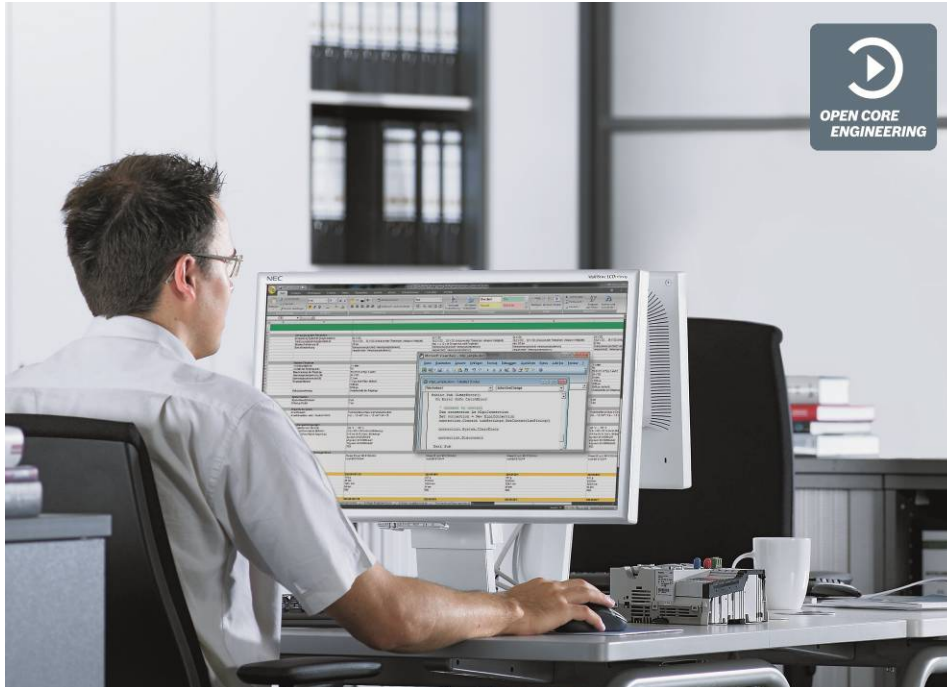


Press Release

Data highway between automation and IT

Access controls in any programming language with Open Core Engineering

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2014-03-13



Fast detecting and analyzing production data with the Office program Excel directly from the machine.

Production control, traceability, quality assurance and the vision of connected industry require a stronger flow of information from automation to the IT world and back. Open Core Engineering from Rexroth with the interface technology Open Core Interface simplifies this exchange considerably. Users can now access all information of machine controls without any PLC knowledge directly from their familiar IT programs and languages.

Fast detecting and analyzing production data with the Office program Excel directly from the machine: Where machine users used to have to allocate comprehensive programming work to IT service providers, they now simply write a macro with the familiar Visual Basic for Applications (VBA). Through the interface technology Open Core Interface, they can access data of the controls and drives of a machine directly – without PLC knowledge or required changes to the PLC program.

This reduces cost and increases flexibility, to collect and analyze production data according to the demands with any program outside of machine

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automation. The new interface technology provides the respectively appropriate functional libraries as an installable software development kit (SDK) for different programming environments. In addition to VBA, the Open Core Interface supports regular high-level languages such as C/C++, C# (.NET) as well as all programming environments with integration of Microsoft COM-libraries.

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The lean protocol structure and the integration of Open Core Interface into the control core also preserve the processing capacity of the machine controls even during large data transfers. This ensures full performance of the control without side effects. Via the Ethernet-based data highway, users can detect the energy consumption of all machines in parallel with running production and detailed according to individual actuators, analyze availability data for the calculation of the Overall Equipment Efficiency (OEE) or manage production data with Excel in a decentralized way.

Open Core Interface therefore creates the conditions for an economic integration of the motion logic systems IndraMotion MLC and IndraMotion MTX and the PLC family IndraLogic XLC by Rexroth with IT systems. This opens up potential that can be implemented immediately for the step-by-step introduction of connected industry processes, even in production environments that are already installed.

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Economical, precise, safe, and energy efficient: drive and control technology from Bosch Rexroth moves machines and systems of any size. The company bundles global application experience in the market segments of Mobile Applications, Machinery Applications and Engineering, Factory Automation, and Renewable Energies to develop innovative components as well as tailored system solutions and services. Bosch Rexroth offers its customers hydraulics, electric drives and controls, gear technology, and linear motion and assembly technology all from one source. With locations in over 80 countries, more than 36,700 associates generated sales revenue of approximately 5.7 billion euros in 2013.

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The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. According to preliminary figures, its roughly 281,000 associates generated sales of 46.4 billion euros in 2013 (Note: due to a change in the legal rules governing consolidation, the 2013 figures can only be compared to a limited extent with the 2012 figures). Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Automotive Technology, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its more than 360 subsidiaries and regional companies in some 50 countries. If its sales and service partners are included, then Bosch is represented in roughly 150 countries. This worldwide development, manufacturing, and sales network is the foundation for further growth. In 2013, Bosch applied for some 5,000 patents worldwide. The Bosch Group's products and services are designed to fascinate, and to improve the quality of life by providing solutions which are both innovative and beneficial. In this way, the company offers technology worldwide that is "Invented for life."

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