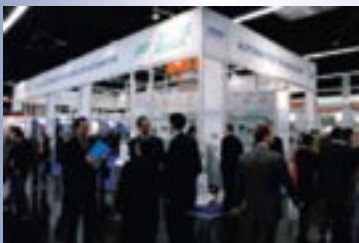




Profibus Newsletter

April 2006



FOR PROFIBUS - A HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL YEAR; FOR PROFINET - A YEAR OF CONSOLIDATION

2005 was another successful year for PROFIBUS and PROFINET. **Market research confirmed**

the leading position of PROFIBUS: 88% of the respondents to ARC's fieldbus market survey said that tightly integrated automation networks (like PROFIBUS) are the priority in process.

ARC described PROFINET as 'all-encompassing', with major benefits including IT connectivity, investment protection, safety and drives technology, graphical configuration and engineering and advanced motion control.

A huge number of activities promoted PROFIBUS and PROFINET during 2005, among them press conferences and roadshows. Other events include a major Conference in the UK, the Swiss Industrial Networks Day (formerly Swiss PROFIBUS Day), seminars on all continents, innumerable training courses and, of course, fair booths. Most of this work is undertaken by the largest and most comprehensive

fieldbus support network in the world, including 24 Regional Associations. Technical support is provided by 32 PI Competence Centers and 8 PI Test Laboratories.



In 2005, the **PROFIdrive** and **PROFI-safe** profiles were both revised for use **with PROFINET**, making it even more powerful and a rich new opportunity for PROFIBUS members everywhere.

After more than 15 years, PROFIBUS continues to grow in popularity and is certainly the most successful fieldbus the world has ever seen. **100 new companies joined PI in**

2005, increasing the total to more than 1 300. PI is now the largest interest group in the world for industrial communications and automation.

Profibus Exhibition 2006

The 5th May 2006 sees the PROFIBUS USER GROUP "1 DAY AUTOMATION EXHIBITION" to be held at the Eskom Convention Centre, Halfway House from 10h00 – 16h00. Go to www.rsa.profibus.com for more details.

Stand a chance to win one of 18 prizes in the exciting treasure hunt, be there early, if you snooze, you'll loose!

2005 Numbers Expected to Top 15 Million

Early indications, based on chip sales, are that the number of installed PROFIBUS nodes has risen above 15 million. PA installations have also risen substantially above 500 000. The final numbers will be confirmed in our next issue.

New Website

Look out for the new layout of the PROFIBUS Website at www.rsa.profibus.com.



www.rsa.profibus.com. This follows changes to the PI Website, but it offers more than just a new layout: A complete re-launch has been undertaken, restructuring and re-working over 10 000 pages. One objective was to offer visitors a better browsing experience, supported by a separation of technologies by colour into PROFIBUS (blue) and PROFINET (green) segments.

For more information on Profibus User Group of South Africa contact Rob MacKenzie on (011) 801 8200.