



Profibus Newsletter

April 2007

By the time you read this, the Hanover Show will be over. This is always a very interesting time for us in the PROFIBUS User Group (PUG) as the Hanover Show is one of two events in Germany where all the new ideas and developments are announced. We will have more information for you in the next newsletter so you could wait for that, or, you could visit the Process Show 2007, see below...

PROCESS SHOW 2007

As we all know, communication is (almost) everything. Not only with regards to fieldbus communication, as well between manufacturers, users and developers. PUG can confirm that there will be 15 exhibitors on the PUG stand at the Process Show. Currently all the companies are working on live presentations of PROFINET, PROFIBUS DP and PA, PROFIDRIVE and PROFISAFE. These live presentations will show more than 30 products from these 15 manufacturers all working together in a simulated control environment to demonstrate the openness, performance and future of the PROFIBUS solution.

The Process Show, traditionally the flagship of the PUG for the launch and display of new technology, runs from 15 to 18 May 2007 at the National Exhibition Centre, Johannesburg. Don't miss it!

PROFIBUS BREAKFASTS

Once again the PROFIBUS Breakfast in Johannesburg will be held in conjunction with the Process Show, on the 16th of May. We are very lucky this year to have Mr Edgar Küster, Chairman of PROFIBUS International (PI), as the speaker. Mr Küster's presentation will be the transformation of PI from a fieldbus organisation to an automation organisation and will introduce PROFINET for the process industry (see international news below).

After the success of the 2005 breakfast in Durban, we can also announce that the 2007 Durban Breakfast with Edgar Küster will be on Friday 11th May.

Contact Kessi on kessi.coetzee@za.endress.com should you wish to book a seat.

International News PROFINET LINKS TO FIELDBUSES AND HART TO SUPPORT PROCESS USERS

PI is encouraging widespread use of PROFINET in process automation by defining how PROFIBUS PA, HART and FOUNDATION Fieldbus can be integrated with it.

The PI working group 'DCS requirements' is working with NAMUR to define the requirements, which will then be implemented by other working groups.

The integration of PROFIBUS PA is complete. HART is nearing completion and work has begun on Foundation Fieldbus - with expected completion in 2007. Then, HART, PROFIBUS PA and Foundation Fieldbus process instruments will be able to operate unchanged under PROFI-

NET. PI working groups will also consider system redundancy, time synchronisation and stamping, and engineering.

In conjunction with the Maintenance Execution Systems (MES) interfaces (see below), this promises powerful management capabilities for process plants.

PROFINET AND MES: CLOSING THE COMMUNICATION GAP

PI has released the 'PROFINET and MES Maintenance Operations' guideline, which describes interface functions supporting maintenance systems and facilitating consistent communication from the field up to top management.

While interfaces between MES and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) are defined in ISO/IEC 62264, the new PROFINET specification defines an open interface between MES and automation systems for maintenance. This has closed a communication gap, as no standards previously existed relating to how the automation information should be provided.

Another MES-relevant PROFINET standard is the guideline 'Identification and Maintenance Functions' (I&M functions). I&M functions contain the so-called 'electronic type plate' which is saved in a device and used for selecting spare parts, procuring and storing products, planning device updates and establishing a direct link to the device vendor.

The guideline 'PROFINET and MES Maintenance Operations' can be downloaded from the PI website at www.profibus.com/pn

ONCE UPON A TIME...

Once upon a time (in this very galaxy) there lived a very plain damsel who thought she was something very special. Her name was SUE. She lived by a rock and well...

For a light hearted look at PROFINET, PI has created a whimsical look at PROFINET's North American competitor, Ethernet/IP: 'PROFINET or the story of Pretty Polly, Sweet SUE, and the White Knight.'

To get more info go to www.profibus.com/pn



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