

PROFINEWS

PROFIBUS & PROFINET news from around the world

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PI Helps Foster an Intelligent and Digitized Future

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/pi-helps-foster-an-intelligent-and-digitized-future/>

A new round of technical innovation and industrial reform, observed with new development trends and characteristics, is sweeping across the world. The technical innovation is aimed to foster a digitalized, web-based, and intelligent manufacturing industry by thoroughly integrating industry with information technology, exerting far-reaching influence on worldwide manufacturers. To conquer challenges faced in fulfilling the visions of “Industrie 4.0” and the “Industrial Internet of Things” and the “Made in China 2025” strategy, the whole world is vigorously advancing digitalized manufacturing. This mission is composed of four key components: application of digital software packages, deployment of industrial communication networks, ensuring the safety of plants and network, and integrity of systems in industrial environment. In addition, there is a provision of business-specific industrial services, of which, the deployment of an industrial communication network plays a vital role. PI, as a world’s leading player in industrial communication, has been committed to technical innovation in the frontier area of automation over the past 26 years. PROFINET, as an open Ethernet technology applicable to real-time automation, is able to meet the requirements for big data transmission and high-precision control into the future.

It is an honor for PI China to host the 29th PI Meeting (RPA Chairman Meeting and Technical Meeting) in Beijing this year. This is the second time that the PI Meeting has been held in China. This is a very good opportunity to introduce China's manufacturing sector to our PI counterparts and to create a PROFINET innovation platform in China, through which, we may display to scholars, consumers and representatives of manufacturers, PI's innovative technologies in Industrie 4.0 and the Industrial Internet of Things, discuss the decisive role of PROFINET technology in realizing digitized manufacturing and fostering digital businesses, and share experience in using PROFINET technology to help businesses improve productivity and reduce costs.

See more information about the 29th PI Meeting at <http://www.pi-china.org/PI-Meeting-2017/index-en.html>.

See more information about PROFINET Innovation Forum in Chinese at <http://www.pi-china.org/news/NewsInfo.aspx?nid=6&pid=10&id=742>.

2017 is also an important year for PI China, which has been in operation for about 20 years in China. When PI China was established, we only had a dozen members. Now, with the support from more than one hundred local members, it has become PI’s third largest regional organization. In days ahead, we will continue to boost, cultivate, and promote PI’s PROFIBUS and PROFINET technologies in China.



Ouyang Jinsong
PI China Chairman

Annual PI Meeting in Beijing

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/annual-pi-meeting-in-beijing/>

The 29th joint annual meeting for PI Chairman, PI Competence Centers (PICCs), PI Training Centers (PITCs), and PI Test Labs (PITLs) was successfully convened by PROFIBUS & PROFINET China (“PI China”) on June 19-23 in Beijing, China. 58 representatives were present at the annual meeting, including PI Chairman and Deputy Chairman, Regional PI Association Chairmen, and responsible persons and experts from various PICCs, PITCs, and PITLs around the globe. PI-China Chairman, Executive Vice Chairman, Directors of the Council, Secretary-General, and Commissioner to the Secretariat also attended the event.

This joint meeting consisted of three phases.

Phase 1, Chairmen Meeting, June 19-21

26 RPA chairmen and representatives from around the world attended this session, which was presided



over by PI

Chairman Karsten Schneider. At this

session, Mr. Ouyang Jinsong, PI-China Chairman, addressed the meeting on behalf of PI China and the Secretariat organization (Instrumentation Technology and Economy Institute). Then, Mr. Wang Haibin, Executive Vice Chairman of PI-China, with Siemens (China) Co., Ltd., introduced the organizational structure of PI China and the major undertakings of the Secretariat and the working groups. Mr. Schneider summed up achievements of the topics discussed at the previous PI Chairmen Meeting (the 28th). The PI Secretariat presented the work summary for 2016 and the ongoing works through



PI Deputy Chairman and PI North America Executive Director Michael Bowne adds details about Industrie 4.0 and IIoT

2017 (including the new PI website, regional URLs, etc.); RPA Chairmen from Norway and Korea introduced works in their regions, respectively. Mr. Schneider also reported on the new technologies PI is pursuing against the demands of Industrie 4.0 and on the progress of other innovative technologies, including TSN, APL, PROFINET in PA, and IO-Link. Finally, Dr. Liu Dan, Secretary-General of PI China, made a keynote speech, upon invitation, on Made in China 2025 as well as intelligent manufacturing projects that have been launched in China and their progress.

Phase 2, PICC/PITC/PITL Meetings, June 21-22

PICC Meeting

The PICC Meeting is an annual technical seminar that enables all Competence Center personnel to keep pace with cutting edge technology and informs them about the latest technological progress at PI. This year's session was attended by 50 PICC representatives from all over the world. The meeting was presided over by Professor Frithjof Klasen, Chairman of PICC. The technical reports discussed during the event cover the following aspects: PROFINET & Industrie 4.0/IIoT, TSN, application cases from PROFIBUS to PROFINET, large-scale PROFINET network project and acceptance, streamlined PROFINET troubleshooting, electromagnetics, capacitance and equipotential bonding, OPC UA technology, etc.



New Chinese PICCs Recognized

In addition, 7 PROFINET & PROFIBUS Competence Centers have been established in China, including Siemens (Beijing), Phoenix Contact (China), Beijing DS, ABB (China), Siemens (Chengdu), Procentec (China) and the Instrumentation Technology and Economy Institute (ITEI). Dr. Liu Dan presented to the meeting the featured technical services these Competence Centers are offering in China, including promotion of third-party development by PROFINET, development consultancy and pre-testing, training on development and diagnostics technology, field diagnostics service, PROFINET Maker Angel Fund, etc.

PITC Meeting

The meeting was joined by 48 PITC representatives, which was hosted by Mr. Peter Thomas. This year's PITC Meeting covers the following aspects: training on new PROFINET certified engineer/structure of learning material, training on PROFINET certified installation engineer/updated learning material, development plan for the central problem database for PROFINET certification and training courses, development suggestions for the training course on PROFINET certified system designer, etc.

PITL Meeting

The meeting was attended by 21 PITL representatives and was hosted by Mr. Christian Diedrich. This PITC Meeting discussed these aspects: meeting minutes of the previous PITL Meeting and member issues, key amendments to two help documents "How to Perform Product Certification" and "Authentication Test Framework," major undertakings by working group, update on PROFINET testing tools, etc.

Phase 3, PROFINET Test System Training, June 23

To help manufacturers identify problems on an earlier basis at the development stage, PI provides all members with a free PROFINET test system, which means the test system downloadable from the PI website (www.profinet.com) is exactly the same as that used in any PITL. This training is the first ever training oriented toward PROFINET manufacturer, solution provider, PICC, and PITL, as organized by PI concerning operating procedures of the PROFINET test system. PICC technicians and suppliers of

PROFINET development solutions had been especially invited to this event. The training was given by Professor Hans-Peter Schmidt from OTH Amberg-Weiden, a higher learning institution, and his assistant Alexander Gercikow, and was attended by 21 students. The training focuses on the ART by PROFINET, which includes ART authentication test cases, ART software architecture, realization of user test cases, future features, etc. Operation test was also performed on site.

PI Chairmen Meeting and PICC/PITC/PITL Meeting are both annual meetings. It is customary for PI that an annual meeting is requested and sponsored by turns by all regional RPAs on a global scale. This was the second time that the meeting has been held in China following the previous one which was sponsored ten years ago. This year's event was sponsored by PI China. The meeting received vigorous support from ITEI and PI, and was also based on the positive teamwork by the Council members of PI China and member organizations. The meeting achieved fruitful results as expected.



the meeting participants

All

PROFINET Help Is Near

by **Carl Henning** - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/profinet-help-is-near/>

Accredited PI (PROFIBUS & PROFINET International) Competence Centers (PICCs) provide high-quality support for PROFIBUS and PROFINET technologies worldwide. PI is very pleased with the continued strong interest on all the continents in adding to the list of accredited PICCs. In the past three months, three PICCs were established in South America, one in Turkey, one in Canada as well as yet another in Germany.

In recent weeks in China, the companies Siemens (Chengdu) and Phoenix Contact (Nanjing) applied for accreditation as PROFINET PICCs, and the already existing PICC for PROFIBUS, PROCENTEC China, applied to expand its scope to include PROFINET. The accreditations were successful. This brings the total number of PICCs worldwide to 60.

The certificates were ceremonially presented during the PI-China Forum in Beijing on June 19, 2017, by PI Chairman Karsten Schneider, PI Deputy Chairman Michael Bowne, and the director of the PICCs, Prof. Frithjof Klasen.



The accredited Competence Centers play an important role for PI in helping to spread its technologies. The Centers offer a wide range of technical support to interested companies and provide assistance to the 25 regional PI associations, which represent the interests of their members in the respective region for all technical issues.

PI is pleased with the ongoing trend, which is proof of the success of the PI technologies and welcomes further candidates from around the world.

Small Steps to Digital Plant Success

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/small-steps-to-digital-plant-success/>

Smart businesses are getting to know the value of intelligent, predictive, digital systems by setting aside and modernizing a small section of their plant.

When Fortescue designed and developed their Solomon Hub mine in the Hamersley Ranges, the scale of the project was impressive. At the time of their creation, the Firetail and Kings ore mines (together making up the Solomon Hub) created the world's largest PROFINET Industrial Ethernet network. This network played an enormous role in productivity and efficiency improvements.



Australia's largest PROFINET network at Fortescue has played an enormous role in delivering substantial productivity and efficiency improvements. A business needn't be the size of Fortescue to realize the types of competitive advantages that digital communication networking offers.

The network, for example, helped Fortescue to capture real-time data from various machinery and devices in the field. This allowed the business to monitor not only its asset and production levels but also the health of its machinery. As a result, the viability of the site has constantly been maintained. Predictive data has identified issues ahead of time, allowing preventative maintenance to take place and ensuring smooth operation. Incredibly, the cost of producing a ton of iron ore was reduced by almost 66%.

"Of course, not everything has been due to the networking of their plant," says Rafael Koenig, Profibus Australia Chairman and Managing Director of Weidmuller Australia. "But it has been an essential part of Fortescue's strategy to employ the latest automation technology to support productivity goals."

A business needn't be the size of Fortescue to realize the types of competitive advantages that digital communication networking offers.

"It's simply about the upgrading of legacy systems, not about making an instant leap to Industry 4.0," says Fritz Woller, Executive Officer Engineering with IS Systems. "Making even a small move towards a modern control system opens a door and allows a business to begin to truly appreciate the value of access to data."

Woller says committing to a relatively minor upgrade in a small part of a plant, from an analogue system to a digital platform, will realize entirely unexpected benefits. One client, for example, was fed up with sourcing increasingly rare spare parts for his legacy factory system so commissioned a digital fieldbus.

Soon after its installation, a machine was automatically shut down because the newly intelligent devices on the fieldbus sensed a serious problem.

"The devices that sat on the fieldbus told the plant manager that there was a phase imbalance in a transformer and therefore the new system switched that machine off," Woller explains. "If it continued running then the motor would have been destroyed. That saved an awful lot of equipment damage, and they were able to quickly fix the transformer and get everything up and running again."



"When hesitant the best approach is to simply identify the issue that is causing the most pain, then work with an automation industry partner to develop a solution for this problem." Jim Wallace (Balluff)

This predictive maintenance capability, knowing about issues before they become serious problems, is just one of the many benefits of digital systems.

"In a nutshell, the new systems offer the ability to keep a plant running more efficiently," says Jim Wallace, Marketing Manager at Balluff Pty Ltd. "It means less downtime, less unplanned maintenance, faster change-over time and increasing quality and throughput."

"Implementation usually starts off on a small scale, which helps to control costs and to develop an appreciation of the real-world benefits the digital system offers. When clients begin to realize those benefits, they expand the systems across their plants."

Installing a new technology plant-wide is difficult and daunting, Wallace says. Often the best approach is to simply identify the issue that is causing you the most pain, then work with an automation industry partner to develop a solution to this problem.

"Pick off some low-hanging fruit to justify and learn about the investment," he says. "Work through it in small sections across the factory and learn along the way the many new benefits such a system offers."

"As manufacturers and suppliers, we have a shared responsibility to get these systems correct. It is not about flicking a switch to go from the old technology to the new technology. It is about the fact that most companies have performance potential that they don't even recognize until they begin to employ the new technology and appreciate its awesome productivity benefits."

PROFINET Switches for Diagnostics

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/profinet-switches-for-diagnostics/>

Use PROFINET Switches to Increase Diagnostic Capabilities and Reduce the Time to Market

Project Introduction

A Moxa customer, one of the leading manufacturers of filling, bottling, and packaging machines utilizes Ethernet switches and PROFINET technology to create an integrated industrial network for all of their machines. Learn why this customer chose to deploy Moxa's devices in order to enhance production efficiency at their bottling plant.

The use of the PROFINET protocol is becoming a de-facto standard in manufacturing. However, before all of the benefits of Ethernet-based technologies can be exploited, machine builders have to overcome a few challenges. One of the main challenges is that machines builders often come from a technical field of mechanics and electrical engineering and do not have much IT knowledge so they find it difficult to work with the new IT infrastructures that are currently being deployed. This manufacturer, based in Europe, is already using the protocol in its machinery and equipment. By using PROFINET, the company can increase the diagnostic capabilities of their PLCs, reduce the time it takes to build their machines, and can enable untrained staff to replace devices within a few minutes.

System Requirements

The migration from PROFIBUS to PROFINET requires minimal electrical engineering knowledge, but new IT knowledge in order for a smooth transition to take place. The company invested in an exclusive PROFINET division early on because they realized the potential of migrating to PROFINET and wanted to reap the benefits as early as possible. Companies that do not utilize PROFINET technology often have to go to the plant to check on a device and manually enter the IP address and the name of the PROFINET device. As downtime at a bottling plant is very costly, engineers often have to go to the site immediately in order to keep downtime to a minimum.

To take full advantage of the benefits of PROFINET, the company deploys field-proven Ethernet switches that form an internal network. Within the internal network, Ethernet-based devices that communicate on a machine level are integrated with other packaging machines on the factory level, and are controlled and monitored from a decentralized control center. As the process of fixing machines is very simple, even untrained staff can get the machine operating normally again quickly. In addition, it is important that the centralized control function of the control system performs reliably all the time. The company also builds machines for the beverage, chemical, and health care industries, so it is essential that every piece of machinery can withstand high-pressure cleaning solutions and sterilizers.

Moxa Solution

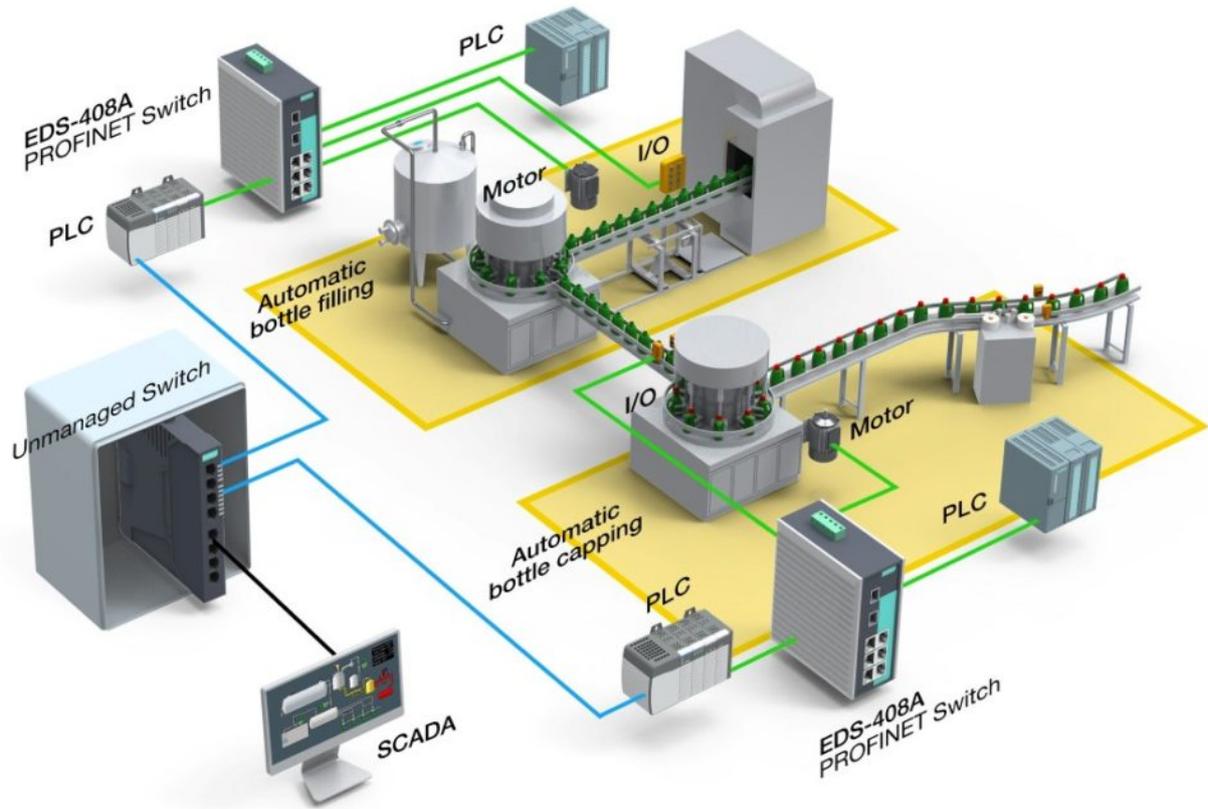
High Performance on PROFINET networks

One of the manufacturer's solutions is a filling line for soft drinks that consists of three machines: a filling machine, a labeling machine, and a packaging machine. To control the machinery, the manufacturer uses Siemens S7-1500 PLCs. The PLCs are responsible for ensuring that all adjustable drives, HMIs, actuators, and sensors function properly. For the filling machine solution to work properly, the PLCs require managed switches that support the PROFINET protocol. In addition, the switches must also act as a cyclic PROFINET I/O device. The company is able to meet all of the key project requirements by deploying Moxa's EDS-408A-PN, which is a managed switch that is capable of cyclically exchanging information with the S7-1500 over the PROFINET protocol. The machine builder only needs to load the GSD file into the PLC, and does not need to perform any more configuration. The PLC can automatically correct the name of the PROFINET device if it is not assigned correctly. This simplifies the first steps of machine development and saves the manufacturer time. In addition, the managed switch can exchange information between adjacent devices using LLDP (Link Layer Discovery Protocol), which enables PROFINET DCP (Discovery and Configuration Protocol) in accordance with the IEC 61158 standard.

The PROFINET switches can be integrated into the PLC using SIMATIC Step 7 or the TIA portal. This allows the PLC to determine which ports are active, if the redundancy mechanisms and redundant power supplies are working, and what the data transmission speed is. The PLC can evaluate this information or pass it on to the HMIs. The information can be integrated directly in the programmer's development environment, which generates added value for programmers and end users without the need for additional tools or interfaces.

Fixed Topology

The machine builder deploys networks with fixed topologies, which means star, ring, tree, and mixed structures can be used. When every network node is attached to a fixed, physically defined port, the network can perform the configuration by itself. In this scenario, all PROFINET devices know the name of each PROFINET device and what device is communicating with what device across the network. Manufacturers that do not use a fixed topology network will often only realize there is a problem when the system fails. This is very problematic because the machine builder must send an engineer to the plant to configure the devices with special automation software in order to get the device working again. One of the main advantages of using a fixed topology is that untrained staff can simply replace devices. There is no need to configure devices as this is done automatically by the switch and the PLC, which removes the need for a skilled engineer to manually assign IP addresses and name the PROFINET device.



PROFINET and TSN

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/profinet-and-tsn/>

TSN = Time Sensitive Networking. It's a catchall name for a series of new standards whose goal is to improve determinism in "standard" Ethernet networks. It grew out of the needs of Audio/Visual delivery. But industry has the same needs for speed and determinism. So industrial consortia and industrial companies jumped into the standardization effort. The effort is ongoing. Some of the standards are complete and some are in draft. But the efforts are far enough along for demonstrations and preliminary products.

There are many articles in the trade press touting TSN. Here's what users of PROFINET have to do to prepare: Nothing!

PROFINET uses Standard Unmodified Ethernet, typically, with wired 100Mbit/s infrastructure, but it's just Ethernet. So gigabit Ethernet is fine for PROFINET. Multi-gigabit Ethernet is fine for PROFINET. Wireless is fine for PROFINET. Fiber instead of copper is fine for PROFINET. TSN is fine for PROFINET.

The good thing about PROFINET building on a broadly adopted commercial standard like Ethernet is that PROFINET rides the evolution to higher speeds and other features, like TSN.

But what if you need the synchronization and speed of TSN and you need it today? There is no need to wait; PROFINET already provides IRT for just those needs. TSN may provide comparable performance someday. And there are some other unknowns with TSN. Configuration is required. How will that be done? Whatever is needed to configure and implement TSN, PI is working now to make that easy for the user.

If you think that TSN replaces PROFINET you're forgetting that TSN is just part of Ethernet and Ethernet is not an end-to-end protocol. An application layer protocol like PROFINET is needed to complete the delivery of data. No matter how the Ethernet standard evolves (TSN included), you still need an application layer program to make a whole solution. (See Figure 1.)

In conclusion, there is nothing you have to do about TSN. When the time comes, PROFINET will use it just like it uses standard Ethernet today. And if you need synchronization, speed, and determinism today PROFINET IRT does that now.

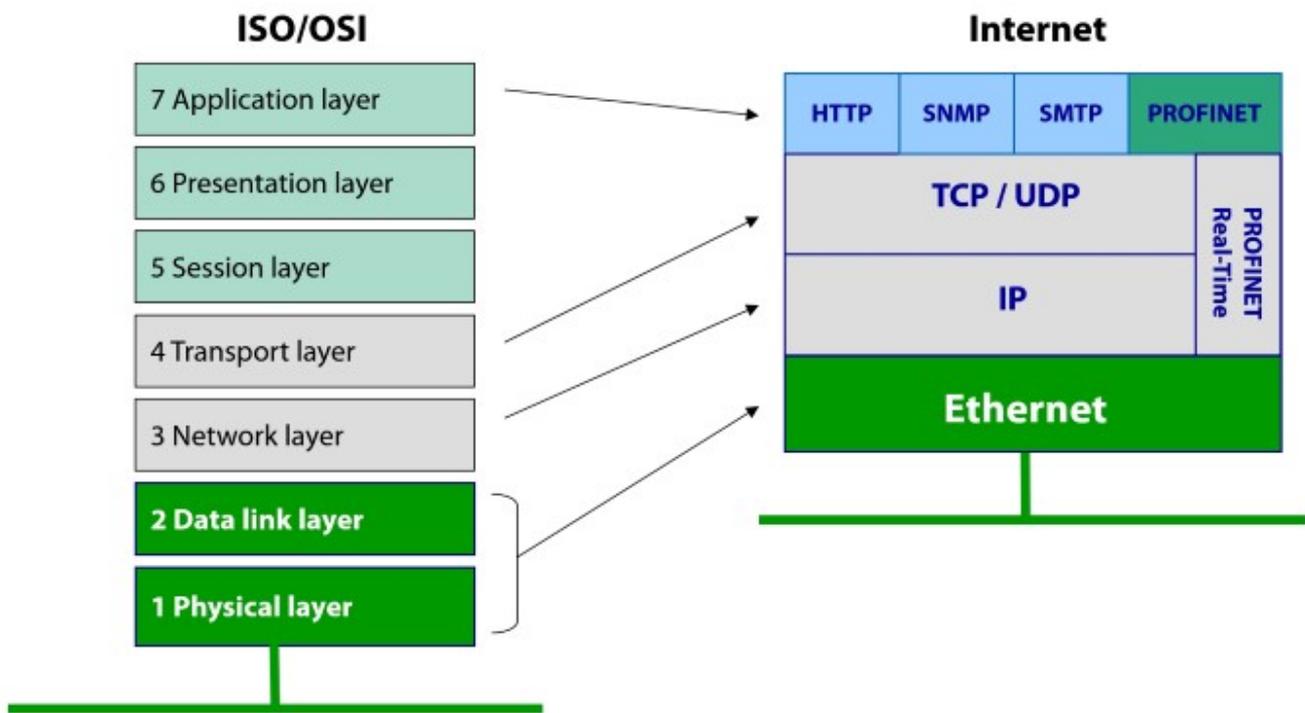


Figure 1: The ISO/OSI 7-layer communications network model collapses to 4 layers in Ethernet usage. The common requirement is that an application layer protocol is required, be it email (SMTP), web browser (HTTP), or PROFINET.

Member News - July 2017

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/member-news-july-2017/>

PI Members in the news this month include PROCENTEC and MESCO. PROCENTEC celebrated its twentieth birthday. MESCO reports on a successful technology day featuring PROFISafe and has opened a US office in the Boston area.

PROCENTEC

PROCENTEC, knowledge partner in the field of PROFIBUS and PROFINET technology, celebrated its twentieth anniversary on June 1. Since its founding in 1997, PROCENTEC has grown from a small support company to an internationally recognized manufacturer of innovative solutions that ensure that its customers successfully operate in the world of industrial automation.

[Read more](#)

MESCO

MESCO hosted a MESCO Technology Day in Lörrach, providing answers to current questions about IIoT, security, and the perennial issue of functional safety.



MESCO – The specialist for hardware and software development for industrial communication recently hosted a Technology Day. The red-hot topics of IIoT, Safety and Security were the special focus of the event.

MESCO – as a certified PI Competence Center for PROFISafe – demonstrated with concrete examples how simplifications and accelerations in the development of sensors and drives are possible.

MESCO organized the day together with their partners Avnet Silica and Renesas. In addition to the current market trends, the participants exhibited great interest in the perennial issue of “Functional Safety.” Basic knowledge was equally in demand such as, e.g., special know-how in issues relating to modern fieldbus interfaces and parameterization.

MESCO Engineering supports its clients as a service contractor in the development and certification of devices and gladly passes know-how on – e.g. at the Safety & Security Forum in Munich or at a variety of

other events: <http://mesco-engineering.com/en-de/mesco/events>

The MESCO Group has opened a new subsidiary in the US. A new competence center, headed up by Ken Hoover, has been established near Boston, Massachusetts, in Newburyport.

With its new Newburyport subsidiary, MESCO aims to consolidate its position at an international level in the future and tap into new markets. "With demand from the US continuing to rise and customer proximity essential, it is important that we offer a local interface," said Thomas Best, Managing Director of the MESCO Group.

Starting with three employees, the US team will focus on hardware and software development for automation components, concentrating on industrial communication, functional safety, and explosion protection.

The new contact details:

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Fax: +1 978 465-0680

Are you a member in PI? Would you like to see your company news here? Send an email to:
editor@profinews.com

Regional News - July 2017

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/regional-news-july-2017/>

News from around the world includes a new PI Competence Center and PI Training Center in Argentina, events in Brazil, and a Profibus & Profinet Day in Italy.

Argentina

The first PI Training Center (PITC) and PI Competence Center (PICC) was accredited by PI in Argentina at Autex S.A., a Siemens Premier Partner located in Cordoba. All PITCs/PICCs are carefully audited to ensure that they meet the high standards set by PI. The new PITC was audited by Torsten Paulsen, Manager of the PROFI Interface Center. They present the following courses:

- CERTIFIED PROFIBUS Installer Course
- CERTIFIED PROFINET Installer Course
- CERTIFIED PROFIBUS Engineers Course
- CERTIFIED PROFIBUS PA Module
- CERTIFIED PROFINET Engineers Course

Additional consultancy, field diagnostics and engineering support services are also available.

This PITC/PICC started its operations in May of this year.

Brazil

PI Brazil presented two *PROFINET on the Road* events, a PROFIBUS/PROFINET/AS-i seminar, and participated in an ISA technical meeting.

Read the full story on each of the events [here](#).

Italy

On June 14 at Pordenone, the second stage of the year for the *Profibus & Profinet Day*, the itinerant congress day organized by Profibus and Profinet Italia Consortium was held. Technicians, engineers, installers, system integrators and industry operators were presented with the latest technological developments around the world of industrial communication. The meeting took place at Hotel Cà Brugnera.

The meeting was aimed at anyone who wants to learn more about Safety and Security for industrial communication or to see concrete examples of Diagnostic and Troubleshooting management. Major national experts were available to present and illustrate the technological trends and the latest developments in the Italian market and to address themes related to operational and energy efficiency of

plants and safety. A theoretical and practical overview of the use of Profibus and Profinet for Industry 4.0 technologies was provided.

The afternoon session featured Workshops on Safety & Security, Diagnostics & Troubleshooting, and Fundamentals for Implementing a Profinet Network. Guests were free to choose which workshops to attend and at what time.

IO-Link Members Assembly

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/io-link-members-assembly/>

IO-Link grows and grows and grows - both the number of members and the number of installed nodes. Thus, Reinhard Schlagenhauer, Speaker of the Steering Committee of IO-Link, was delighted to be able to present the latest positive growth figures at the IO-Link Members Assembly on June 22, 2017 in Frankfurt, Germany to nearly 50 participants.

161 companies have joined the IO-Link community. In particular, the increasing share of international companies, especially from Japan, has to be emphasized. This is certainly due to the newly founded IO-Link Community in Japan, which was founded in April 2017; it already includes 24 companies, according to Hidetoshi Matsumoto of Omron, who presented the activities of the IO-Link Community Japan at Members Meeting.

In addition to these success stories, many current technology topics were also on the agenda, e. g. IO-Link Safety, Wireless, IO-Link Integration, Profiles and, of course, Industrie 4.0. A special highlight was the application report of Horst Klesse from Elopak. This one-day meeting was packed with the latest information on IO-Link.

Product News - July 2017

by Carl Henning - Wednesday, July 05, 2017

<http://profinews.com/2017/07/product-news-july-2017/>

Nine new products are introduced this month for PROFINET, PROFIBUS, and IO-Link: Banner IO-Link sensor, Helmholz PROFINET switches, Phoenix Contact signal conditioners and gateways, ProSoft Ethernet gateways, and three PROFIBUS PA products from Vivace.

Click the headline for details.

[Banner Engineering](#)



High-performance LTF Series Sensors detect targets regardless of color, material, or sheen from up to 12 m away, straight-on or at an angle. It features analog and discrete or dual discrete outputs for measuring and detection applications. The two-line, eight-character display and push-button programming provides easy setup, troubleshooting and real-time distance measuring. Available with IO-Link.

[Helmholz](#)



The new Helmholz 4 and 8-port managed PROFINET switches, users can fully exploit the possibilities of their PROFINET networks. The supported PROFINET protocols, such as LLDP, DCP, or even diagnostic alarms, can be easily configured and administered.

[Hilscher](#)



Hilscher and Element14, the Raspberry manufacturer, developed a Raspberry Pi 3 architecture based platform specially hardened for industrial use. The design combines the original Pi 3 circuitry and Hilscher's netX multi-protocol industrial network controller on a single board. With netX, protocols such as PROFINET, or other Industrial Ethernet protocol are supported.

[Phoenix Contact Signal Conditioners](#)



The Mini Analog Pro signal conditioners from Phoenix Contact, featuring bus and network connection combine the benefits of safe electrical isolation with those of digital communication. Up to eight field signals can be transmitted to industrial networks without error on less than 50 mm overall width. Signal-specific input cards are no longer required. The new plug-in gateways digitize this output data and send it directly from the interface level to the control system or PLC via a serial communication protocol such as PROFIBUS.

[Phoenix Contact Serial Gateways](#)



Phoenix Contact introduces a new line of serial device servers and gateways that gives automation engineers an easy and cost-effective way to connect control systems and field devices.

Performing routine maintenance, upgrades, or expansion of control systems can lead to a communications

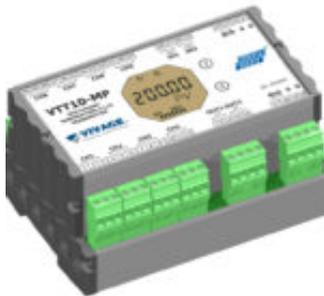
gap between legacy devices and emerging technologies. Many companies have traditionally depended on serial system connectivity and are now trying to integrate controls that communicate via Ethernet. This new family of serial device servers and gateways support most common industrial protocols including PROFINET.

ProSoft Gateways



EtherNet/IP, Modbus, and PROFINET have become increasingly prevalent across the automation industry – and so has the need to connect them. With its newest gateway solutions, ProSoft Technology is allowing companies to use their EtherNet/IP or Modbus TCP/IP-based PLCs/PACs to control their PROFINET devices.

Vivace



Vivace introduces three new PROFIBUS PA products:

- [Bluetooth Interface](#)
- [Position Transmitter](#)
- [Multipoint Temperature Transmitter](#)

PROFINETS

PROFIBUS & PROFINET news from around the world