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**YASKAWA implements  
POWERLINK****Looking back at the SPS/IPC/DRIVES 2009:  
The EPSG takes stock of the trade show**

The SPS/IPC/DRIVES withstands the economic crisis. Attendance by exhibitors and visitors was much better than expected in view of the critical global economic situation. The EPSG is also in a splendid mood. At the trade show booth of the POWERLINK user organization, its representatives noted excellent feedback. "Instead of comparing POWERLINK with other communication systems, our visitors show an increasing interest in concrete applications", says Rüdiger Eikmeier, managing director of the EPSG. "This shows us that POWERLINK has been well established in the market."



The EPSG has registered another trend: apart from standard industrial automation applications, many visitors are interested in other POWERLINK application areas such as transport and outdoor technologies. Most conversations at the booth were centered on openSAFETY, the open source version of the POWERLINK safety stack, which IXXAT had released just in time for the SPS/IPC/DRIVES. Apart from technical questions, legal and strategic aspects revolving around openSAFETY were discussed. The central showpiece at the EPSG booth was a Formula Student Racing Car borrowed from the winners of the first European Industrial Ethernet Award, a student team from the Danish Odense University. The EIEA is awarded for outstanding creative POWERLINK solutions. The students from Denmark developed an easy-to-configure POWERLINK network for the circuit board electronics which integrates engine control, slip regulation, gear shifting, speed sensors, and dashboard displays. Formula Student is an international competition of automobile engineers initiated by the "Institute of Mechanical Engineers in the UK" in 1998. While contestants initially aimed at reducing the weight of the vehicles, they have been increasingly focusing on optimizing the board electronics in recent years.

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**YASKAWA implements  
POWERLINK****YASKAWA implements POWERLINK**

YASKAWA has now also fitted its  $\Sigma$ -V (Sigma-5) type servo drives with POWERLINK interfaces. An internationally leading manufacturer of servo drives, machine controllers, frequency inverters, and robots, and a member of the Ethernet POWERLINK Standardization Group (EPSG) since April, YASKAWA presented its first POWERLINK drives at the SPS/IPS/DRIVES exhibition in Nuremberg, Germany.

ETHERNET  
**POWERLINK**  
real-time technology



YASKAWA has fitted a POWERLINK interface to its  $\Sigma$ -V drives

“The market for POWERLINK-compatible products is continually growing; and a large number of control manufacturers from Europe and the U.S. already use the protocol or plan its implementation”, says Michael Wiechert, General Manager Motion and Control at YASKAWA Electric Europe. “The growing market share and the promising future prospects have prompted us to add POWERLINK interfaces to our high-end products.”

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**Masthead:**

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