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**EPSPG offers free-of-charge  
online XDD check****B&R POWERLINK Day for manufacturers of  
automation components**

On May 24, 2011, the POWERLINK Day will take place in Salzburg. The event will be held in German. The POWERLINK Day is part of the B&R User Meeting 2011. It focuses sales managers and technical decision makers for manufacturers of electronic automation components such as sensors, drives, I/O systems, and complete control solutions. In a series of talks, users and manufacturers address questions of technology and implementation strategies for POWERLINK and the fieldbus-independent safety protocol openSAFETY. Additionally, there will be presentations by Hilscher, IXXAT, and port and a status report on XML-based device description languages and FDT/DTM. There will be sufficient time for discussion with participants from OEM machinery industry and process automation. Following the event, the Ethernet POWERLINK Standardization Group (EPSPG) will hold its general meeting.

Interested persons can register at [www.br-automation.com/um2011](http://www.br-automation.com/um2011).

**B&R POWERLINK Day**

date/ time: May 24, 2011, 8.30 am - 6 pm

place: Radisson Blu Hotel & Conference Centre, Salzburg, Austria

registration: [www.br-automation.com/um2011](http://www.br-automation.com/um2011)

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## POWERLINK axis systems lead the field

POWERLINK is the world's most widely used Industrial Ethernet protocol in applications where plant productivity depends on fast axes and machine and sensor data is transmitted in hard real time. In the year 2010 alone, more than 100,000 new axis systems with POWERLINK interfaces were put into operation. "This success is founded on POWERLINK's performance in motion control networks," explains Anton Meindl, CEO of the Ethernet POWERLINK Standardization Group (EPSG). "In machines with 24 axes and in I/O stations with 110 digital and 30 analog I/O channels, POWERLINK provides a drive-to-drive reaction time of less than 250  $\mu$ s. One extreme example of POWERLINK's performance is a machine in a pharmaceutical application with more than 500 axes. POWERLINK's open source license and the support given to developers and users by the user organization EPSG are additional competitive advantages."



Anton Meindl, CEO of the Ethernet POWERLINK Standardization Group (EPSG)

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## The easy integration of Stäubli robots using uniVAL drives and POWERLINK networks



Source: Hekuma GmbH

Robots from Stäubli can now be directly operated with B&R controllers. This is possible thanks to a POWERLINK interface on Stäubli's uniVAL drives that allows Generic Motion Control programs from B&R controllers to be transferred to the robots. In this way, robotics engineers can use the uniform programming and operating environment provided by B&R controllers.

The Stäubli robots are connected to the network using POWERLINK, the real-time Ethernet standard (image source: Hekuma GmbH)

Robots are connected to the network using POWERLINK, the real-time Ethernet standard. When using a higher-level

controller, the controllers for the Stäubli robots are switched into passive mode, which still allows them to check whether incoming control commands are valid with regard to kinematics and safety. The uniform operating interface means that system operators can save time, money and work during commissioning and servicing. For machine manufacturers, the reduction in interfaces doesn't just mean a lower selling price, but also shorter cycle times in production, cutting costs there as well. In addition, the shared POWERLINK network also offers fully uniform diagnostic support as well as the ability to implement comprehensive solutions – from the visualization application and motion/robot control all the way to integrated quality control via image processing in a true real-time network.

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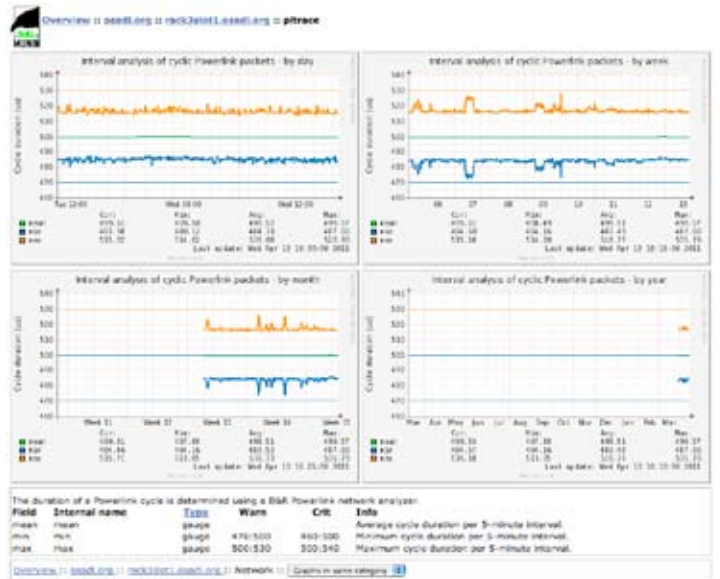
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**OSADL tests Linux kernel with POWERLINK implementation**

The Open Source Automation Development Lab (OSADL) has implemented a POWERLINK test bed in addition to the existing real time Ethernet racks. It is based on a standard computer system running the "Latest Stable" real-time mainline Linux kernel that is equipped with version 1.7.1 of the Open Source POWERLINK master stack. Licensed under the Open Source BSD license, the stack can be used for Linux implementation without any license restrictions. In addition to implementations as Linux kernel module as in this test bed, the latest version of the POWERLINK stack



The latency times and jitter measured in the POWERLINK test bed have been published at [www.osadl.org](http://www.osadl.org)

can be used as a user space application. In OSADL's own test bed, the POWERLINK master stack runs on an Eltec Eurocom 400/Modbase 200 system that is connected to a POWERLINK I/O module from B&R's X20 series. The network communication is recorded by a POWERLINK analyzer from B&R. The latency times and jitter results have been published at [www.osadl.org](http://www.osadl.org).

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## EPSP offers free-of-charge online XDD check

XDD (XML Device Description) is a standardized file format to describe the configuration of POWERLINK devices for easy usage in any POWERLINK master environment. In order to provide means to ensure syntactic and semantic correctness, the XDD check tool was developed. The XDD check tool is a free utility and a simple way to validate your XDD files according to the Ethernet POWERLINK XML Device Description DS 311 V1.0.0 and the Ethernet POWERLINK Communication Profile Specification DS 301 V1.1.0. Please direct any questions or feedback regarding this service to [info@ethernet-powerlink.org](mailto:info@ethernet-powerlink.org).



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