

ETG celebrates successful defense of America's Cup with ETNZ

In an exciting finale off Auckland, New Zealand, ETG member Emirates Team New Zealand (ETNZ) claimed its 7th victory over challenger Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli, successfully defending the world's oldest sporting trophy, the America's Cup. The races featured a spectacular new class of boat that can reach over 100 km/h on or above the water thanks to canting hydrofoils with highly dynamic controllable flaps. The foils are moved hydraulically and, like many other functions on board, are controlled via EtherCAT. EtherCAT was chosen by ETNZ as the central bus system on board to achieve extremely fast response times. The team also appreciates the flexibility to integrate other systems into the EtherCAT network via gateways. Emirates Team New Zealand has been an active member of ETG since 2016 and recently supported the organization by hosting an EtherCAT seminar at their stunning team headquarters in the port of Auckland last year.



The new class of boat can reach over 100 km/h on or above the water.

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Second EtherCAT Interoperability Testing Week

After the first EtherCAT Interoperability Testing Week of the EtherCAT Technology Group at the beginning of the year met with a great response, especially in Europe, the second edition of the event was also very well received. During the one-week digital event, which was coordinated to the time zones of South, Central and North America, developers of EtherCAT devices were able to improve the interoperability of their products online as well as their development know-how and found an opportunity for interactive knowledge exchange with the other participants. The wide acceptance of EtherCAT is reflected in numerous device implementations worldwide. To ensure that these devices can operate in the field without interference and are compatible with each other, ETG offers, in addition to a defined conformance test process, events several times a year that test and improve the compatibility and interoperability of EtherCAT devices. One such event is the EtherCAT Interoperability Testing Week, whose second edition mainly attracted participants from the focus market America. In addition to the so-called Webinar Sessions, where registrants were online together to participate in various presentations or Q&A sessions, for example, there were also 1:1 expert sessions, where device manufacturers could discuss their EtherCAT implementations directly with ETG representatives in a protected room and clarify open questions regarding development, interoperability and testing. And this was well received:

Participants from more than 25 registered companies from five countries listened to the presentations on topics such as the EtherCAT Conformance Test Tool (CTT), EtherCAT Slave Stack Code (SSC), EtherCAT Slave Configuration Interface (SCI) or Safety over EtherCAT (FSoE) implementation, took part in the Q&A sessions and used the expert panels to clarify their individual implementation questions. Dr. Guido Beckmann, EtherCAT expert of Beckhoff and Chairman of the ETG Technical Committee, summarized the event as follows: "The EtherCAT Interoperability Testing Weeks offer device manufacturers a welcome opportunity to improve the interoperability of their implementation without already having the devices in the field. This approach, which has already been successfully supported in the ETG for years by numerous EtherCAT Plug Fests, can fortunately be continued in COVID-19 times through the intensive exchange with the ETG experts in the online sessions." Following the renewed success of the event, there will soon also be EtherCAT Interoperability Testing Weeks in Japan, China and Korea.

All dates can already be found online at:

www.ethercat.org/events