**CC-Link Partner Association increases openness and accessibility at SPS IPC Drives 2016**

**SPS IPC Drives 2016 was a particularly busy show for the CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA). The launch of CC-Link IE Field Network Basic and the delivery of the interoperability specification between CC-Link IE and PROFINET has underlined the association's commitment to openness, accessibility and connectivity.**

The new announcements sparked great discussion during the exhibition between networking and automation professionals in the industry, with CC-Link IE Field Network Basic (or "Basic Mode") and the CC-Link IE / PROFINET announcement receiving an overwhelmingly positive reception during the joint CLPA / PI press conference and throughout the show.

Basic Mode is the latest addition to the family of CLPA network technologies. CC-Link IE is acknowledged in the industry as being a technology leader by virtue of its unique gigabit bandwidth. Basic Mode now brings CC-Link IE to 100Mbit devices, and is achieved via implementing only software at both master and device level, without hardware changes. The principal aim of the new technology is to greatly increase the accessibility of CC-Link IE to vendors whose devices don't currently support gigabit connections.

It was also announced that Basic Mode is compatible with TCP/IP and UDP/IP based Ethernet technology, thus maximising the interoperability with other Ethernet based devices and services.

In addition, it has already gathered support for potential product development, with Balluff, CKD, Hilscher, IDEC, Mitsubishi Electric, Molex, Phoenix Contact and Renesas Electronics all considering implementation.

Building on the initial announcement during SPS IPC Drives 2015, the interoperability specification for CC-Link IE and PROFINET was launched at SPS 2016. The new document has been produced by a joint working group within a year of the co-operation announcement, displaying the two organisations' commitment to delivering on promises for increased integration for end users. The specification serves both users in Asian and European markets, with increased levels of transparency offering the realisation of concepts such as Industry 4.0.

John Browett, General Manager at CLPA, commented: "SPS 2016 was an overwhelmingly positive experience as key industry players were pleased to see the CLPA delivering on promises of increased accessibility. Openness is what our end users have demanded, and we are privileged to now be in a position to deliver further features and increased communications between network protocols for ultimate ease of use."

**Image Captions:**
**Image 1:** CC☐Link offers a comprehensive open network architecture that reaches from enterprise IT connectivity to simple digital I/O on the shop floor. It is also the only open gigabit Ethernet technology for automation today, linking both controller and field devices throughout a plant.
**Image 2:** Building on the initial announcement during SPS IPC Drives 2015, the interoperability specification for CC-Link IE and PROFINET was launched at SPS 2016.

# About the CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA)

The CLPA is an international organization founded in 2000 dedicated to the technical development and promotion of the CC-Link family of open automation networks. The CLPA's key technology is CC-Link IE, the world's first and only open gigabit Ethernet for automation and an ideal solution for Industry 4.0 applications due to its unmatched bandwidth. Currently the CLPA has over 2,800 member companies worldwide, with more than 1,500 certified products available from over 300 manufacturers. CC-Link is the leading open industrial automation network technology in Asia and is becoming increasingly popular in Europe and the Americas.

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# Editor Contact

DMA Europa Ltd. : Anne-Marie Howe

Tel: +44 (0)1562 751436
Fax: +44 (0)1562 748315
Web: www.dmaeuropa.com
Email: anne-marie@dmaeuropa.com

# Company Contact

CLPA-Europe : John Browett

Tel: +44 (0) 7768 338708
Fax: +49 (0) 2102 532 9740
Web: www.clpa-europe.com
Email: John.browett@clpa-europe.com