

CC-LINK OPENS UP ASIAN MARKETS FOR MEASUREMENT SPECIALIST

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In a recent video made with the CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA), sensors and measurement specialist HBM Test and Measurement (HBM) has developed a CC-Link gateway module, which allows a single PLC (programmable logic controller) to collect live data from multiple load cells.

This provides a low-cost solution for developing multi-head weighing systems, allows load cells to be integrated into larger control systems, and also helps HBM address the enormous potential of the Chinese, Japanese and wider Asian markets.

CC-Link is a deterministic, high-speed open automation network technology, which has a leading position in Asia. It allows equipment from many different manufacturers to be integrated into the same communication and control system.

Originally developed by Mitsubishi Electric, in 2000 it was transferred to the CLPA to be developed and promoted worldwide as an open network technology for automation. CC-Link quickly became the leading fieldbus in the booming markets of Asia. This success was reinforced with the launch of CC-Link IE, the world's first and only open gigabit Ethernet for automation.

HBM, which has its global headquarters in Germany, is a member of the European branch of the CC-Link Partners Association (CLPA), and so has been fully supported during the development of its new module. As well as providing technical advice, the CLPA runs a business development programme called Gateway to Asia (G2A), which has been of great support to HBM.

The G2A is a development of an earlier programme focused solely on China, and is divided into three parts. Firstly, a company joins the CLPA, which initially can be free of charge. It then develops and completes conformance testing of a CC-Link compatible product. Finally, the partner works with the CLPA to develop a marketing programme to promote the product in selected Asian markets. The partner benefits from the knowledge and expertise of the CLPA in the Asian market to develop their business further.

HBM is keen to develop its presence in Asia further because it reckons that the market for its load cells there is growing at five times the rate of the European business. It also notes that many of the CC-Link-enabled products sent to Asia are incorporated into machines and systems that are then made for export around the world.

To watch the video on the CLPA YouTube Channel, click [here](#).

Image Captions:

Picture 1: HBM Test and Measurement (HBM) has developed a CC-Link gateway module, which allows a single PLC to collect live data from multiple load cells.



Picture 2: HBM is a member of the European branch of the CC-Link Partners Association (CLPA), and so has been fully supported during the development of its new module.

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About the CLPA

The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) is an international organisation with over 2,100 member companies worldwide. The partners' common objective is promotion and technical development of the family of CC-Link open automation network technologies. Around 1,400 certified products are now available from over 280 manufacturers. CC-Link is the leading open industrial automation network technology in Asia and is becoming increasingly popular in Europe and the Americas. The European headquarters is in Germany, with offices throughout the continent. The CLPA's main initiative for Europe is the Gateway to Asia (G2A) programme, which helps European businesses develop their Asian business further. More details are at www.cc-link-g2a.com.

Editor Contact

DMA Europa Ltd. : Nicola Bigmore

Tel: +44 (0)1562 751436

Fax: +44 (0)1562 748315

Web: www.dmaeuropa.com

Email: nicola@dmaeuropa.com

Reader Contact

CLPA-Europe : John Browett

Tel: +44-(0) 7768 338708

Fax: +49 (0) 2102-486-7170

Web: www.clpa-europe.com

Email: John.browett@clpa-europe.com