

CLPA - a partner in advancing industry-wide TSN conformance

The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) has announced that it is actively engaged with the Avnu Alliance, ODVA, OPC Foundation (OPCF) and PROFIBUS & PROFINET International (PI) as part of the TSN Industrial Automation Conformance Collaboration (TIACC). The organisations will work together to develop a unified conformance test plan for automation devices that leverage Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN), driving standardisation, interoperability and interconnectivity.

Bringing together key global industrial network and communications specialists, the TIACC is an industry-wide initiative aimed at developing a solution for TSN conformance. The CLPA, collectively with all other leading organisations, will develop and agree a single common conformance test plan to certify TSN-compatible products, in line with the IEC/IEEE 60802 TSN profile for Industrial Automation.

The resulting methodology and practices will be released for use to the entire industrial automation ecosystem. By doing so, the TIACC partners will promote the alignment of TSN-compatible solutions from different vendors, which is essential for the development of converged industrial automation networks.

The CLPA's commitment to TIACC is in line with the organisation's overarching strategy to drive the easy integration and openness of networks and devices from multiple vendors. In effect, the CLPA has a history of successful collaborations with other TIACC members, such as OPCF and PI, delivering interoperability and companion specifications aimed at maximising transparency between the different protocols available.

To further support interoperability, the CLPA also continuously invests in its standardised, global network of conformance testing facilities. These are engaged in the evaluation of devices that use CC-Link IE TSN, the first open industrial gigabit Ethernet with TSN functions. Using this real-world experience, and as part of TIACC, the association can contribute to the creation of robust practices to ensure TSN conformance.

John Browett, General Manager at CLPA Europe, comments: "The creation of the Connected Industries of the future requires different systems and devices to communicate in order to deliver the necessary process transparency required. The belief in this principle is deeply rooted in the CLPA's ethos and at the core of why the organisation was founded. This is why we are delighted to be part of the TIACC and look forward to supporting the creation of a unified, common test plan for TSN-compatible products. By doing so, we can help further boost the adoption of futureproof technologies for smart manufacturing."

Image captions:

Image 1: The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) is actively engaged with the Avnu Alliance, ODVA, OPC Foundation (OPCF) and PROFIBUS & PROFINET International (PI) as part of the TSN Industrial Automation Conformance Collaboration (TIACC).

Keywords: TSN Industrial Automation Conformance Collaboration (TIACC), CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA), Time-Sensitive Networking (TSN), conformance, interconnectivity, interoperability, industrial automation, network technology

About The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA)

The CLPA is an international organisation 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 TSN, the world's first open industrial Ethernet to combine gigabit bandwidth with Time Sensitive Networking (TSN), making it the leading solution for Industry 4.0 applications. Currently the CLPA has over 3,800 member companies worldwide, and more than 2,000 compatible products available from over 300 manufacturers. Over 26 million devices using CLPA technology are in use worldwide.

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