PRESS RELEASE

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Real-Time under Windows with EtherCAT and DIAdem
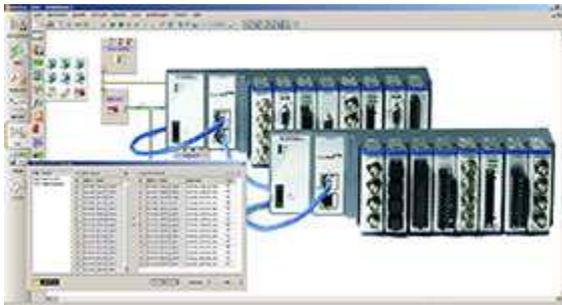
The German company a-solution GmbH successfully introduced their new product "DIAdem EtherCAT Driver" to the public at the Technology and User Conference VIP 2013 this year.

Based on EtherCAT—the fast industrial Ethernet standard—the driver provides a real-time connection between the universal software package DIAdem by National Instruments and diverse EtherCAT hardware devices for measurement, control and analysis.

The foundation of the driver is the EtherCAT Master by Kithara Software. This allows simultaneous data acquisition and output with a cyclic process data exchange in the two-digit kilohertz range in DIAdem for the first time. The Kithara EtherCAT Master supports standard Ethernet controllers, so no special PC hardware is required and any PC design (e.g. notebooks) can be

used with the driver. The network interface switches automatically between Ethernet and EtherCAT.

By means of a bus-scan function, the EtherCAT topology is being automatically recognized and can be selected in DIAdem. The driver supports all I/O modules of the C-Series that are available for the EtherCAT slave chassis 9144 of National Instruments. It allows the easy setting of all relevant hardware parameters directly from DIAdem.

The "DIAdem EtherCAT Driver" of a-solution supports all current Windows operating systems, including Windows 7 and Windows 8 or 8.1 (with 32 or 64 bits).

Kithara Software GmbH

Kithara Software is a specialist for real-time solutions, especially for the Windows® operating systems family. The real-time extension RealTime Suite is a comprehensive system library for hardware dependent programming, communication, automation and image processing in real-time. The software is a powerful technical basis for advanced applications in robotics, image processing, measurement and control engineering as well as automation. It is the key element in machine building, for testing rigs and other specialized applications. Since the company's founding in 1996, Kithara Software supports global companies in their innovative projects. Kithara Software GmbH is member of the EtherCAT Technology Group (ETG) and of the Automated Imaging Association (AIA).

a-solution GmbH

The a-solution GmbH offers innovative solutions for measurement and automation technology as well as in technical data management, amongst others for the automotive, mechanical engineering, power engineering and

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chemistry. The company, based in Grobenzell near Munich and offices in Thuringia and North Rhine-Westphalia, was founded in 2001 and implements as the most experienced DIAdem specialist under the National Instruments Alliance Partners powerful applications from single-user solutions to enterprise analysis systems. The company a-solution became a specialist with know-how in the entire range between process variables and the ERP system, integrates hardware from sensor outputs to bus or network interfaces, creates complete test applications with integrated data management and database solutions, and also pure data analysis applications.

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