



## **Energy management and FPGA innovations to be showcased by CC-Link at SPS/IPC/Drives Fair**

**Major advances in open industrial communications will greet visitors to the CLPA (CC-Link Partners Association) booth, Hall 6 Number 122, at the SPS/IPC/Drives Fair. These will include a new Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) solution and the launch of CC-Link Energy.**

There will also be details of the Gateway to China business development program and displays showing how CC-Link is being used in vertical industries such as food and beverage, consumer packaged goods and water.

CC-Link, one of the world's leading open network technologies, which now exceeds 1700 member companies, allows field devices from many different manufacturers to be integrated onto the same control network and to communicate freely. Organisations wanting to make CC-Link compatible products or to use CC-Link as a control solution can join the CLPA, as can relevant researchers and academics. Field Programmable Gate Arrays (FPGA) are integrated circuits that can be configured by users 'in the field', rather than during their manufacture. This allows bespoke and customized solutions to be easily realized. Device manufacturers will be able to use them for short production runs, allowing them to be more flexible in addressing the changing needs of their markets.

John Browett, General Manager CLPA Europe, says: "FPGA could be a game changer in industrial communications. It opens up many new possibilities and gives users considerable power over their own destiny."

He is similarly enthusiastic for CC-Link Energy, noting that with energy prices rising most organizations consider energy management to be a key concern, "A modern energy management system collects data from every point of usage, so a communications network is vital. CC-Link Energy does this very efficiently and aids converting the raw data into clear concise reports. CC-Link's ability to automatically reconfigure its network is also very useful when energy managers adapt or update their equipment."

The Gateway to China program is always a crowd pleaser at fairs such as SPS/IPC. CC-Link was developed in Asia and is by far the most popular open industrial communications network in region. The program leverages this by offering business support services, such as market research, personal introductions, in-country advertising and promotion and technical and commercial support through over 20 locations.

"This year we are also demonstrating our support for vertical industry sectors," says Browett, "showing how CC-Link can benefit different areas within a given industry. One of the main benefits of CC-Link is the easy integration of networks and the data sharing this engenders."

The SPS/IPC/Drives fair is one of the world's leading fairs for automation and will run from Tuesday 27th November – Thursday 29th November 2012 in Nuremberg, Germany.

Concludes Browett, "SPS is possibly the most important event on the European calendar for us. We have seen a consistent rise in the number of visitors to our booth each year. This shows us that the interest in what CC-Link can offer is continuing to rise. So we make an open invitation to any user who needs a completely reliable, high productivity open network solution for their machine or system to come and spend some time with us, so they too can see what we can offer."

## **About the CLPA**

The CC-Link Partner Association (CLPA) is an international organisation with over 1,700 member companies worldwide. The partners' common objective is promotion and technical development of the family of CC-Link open network technologies. Over 1,200 certified products are now available from over 250 manufacturers. CC-Link is the leading industrial fieldbus in Asia and is becoming increasingly popular in Europe and the Americas. The European headquarters



is in Germany, with offices throughout the continent. The key details for CLPA's Gateway to China (G2C) can be found at the URL [www.cc-link-g2c.com](http://www.cc-link-g2c.com).

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