



Motor Technology News - March 2014

Come and see us at Drives & Controls



This year's Drives & Controls Exhibition and Conference is being held at the NEC, Birmingham, 8 - 10 April 2014, and we'd like to invite you to come and see us on Stand D2, located just at the main entrance to Hall 3.

New products on show for the first time will include the extended ServoOne high-performance servo drive range from LTI, the new AXOR low-cost MACK servo drives, TRIO Motion's expansion of the MC4 series motion co-ordinators, MOOG's range of GL high performance servo motors as well as other products including direct drive motors, encoders, actuators, gearboxes and couplings.

Entrance to the exhibition is free and if you're involved in motion control and power transmission it's well worth a visit. Why not take the opportunity to talk to us about your applications and possible future requirements? We're looking forward to seeing you.

[Click here for more information](#)

New Motion Coordinators run remote servo



Trio has launched a new concept in high performance Motion Coordinators dedicated to running remote servo and stepper drives via the EtherCAT real time automation bus. Based on an up-dated version of the 532MHz ARM 11 processor the new MC4N Mini EtherCAT Master is ideal for high axis count machines or robotic applications.

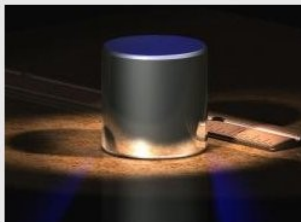
The MC4N supports up to 32 axes of motion with 64 bit integer position registers for ultra precise axis resolution. EtherCAT slave drives and I/O can be connected and run in cyclic synchronous position, speed or torque modes provided these are supported by the drive.

Programming the MC4N is identical to using traditional analogue axes with the addition of being able to set up drives and process alarms over the EtherCAT bus. With everything programmed from one place, machine control has never been so simple.

The new MC4N motion coordinator from TRIO provides up to 32 axes of motion.

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A new definition of the kilogram



Stored in a basement at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) is the UK's National Standard Kilogram, a copy of the international prototype and the standard for all mass measurements in the UK. But researchers at the NPL, and elsewhere, are working hard to make the international prototype obsolete, and there's a very good reason why.

Of all the standard units currently in use around the world, the kilogram – the official unit of mass in the International System of Units (SI) – is the only one that still relies on a physical object for its definition. The mass of the kilogram (kg) is defined by the international prototype of the kilogram, the IPK, and this is kept at the International Bureau of Weights and Measures (BIPM) in France. It is made of an alloy of platinum (90%) and iridium (10%).

The IPK has served as the standard to which all nations' prototype kilograms have been compared for the last 125 years. Every few decades, the national prototypes are carried, usually by hand, to France where they are measured against the IPK.

But here's the thing, discrepancies between the national prototypes and the official specimen, the IPK, have been increasing at a rate of 0.050 milligrams (mg) every 100 years. And no one knows why. It's not really clear if the IPK is getting lighter or the national prototypes are getting heavier.

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New servos are easy drop-in replacements for discontinued pancakes

Matke has launched a new range of brushless servo motors that are simple drop-in replacements for old disc armature motors.

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Fast delivery: Moog motors off the shelf

We're making a selection of Moog's high performance Compact Dynamic servo motors available to customers off-the-shelf for fast delivery.

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Puzzle Corner: Three Doors

You are lost in an ancient, mountain top castle and cannot find your way out. The castle is deserted and there is no-one around to help you to find your way.

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