

Mitsubishi Electric Robots Now Feature EtherNet/IP Connectivity

New option simplifies integration, reduces cost of connecting to PLCs

VERNON HILLS, Ill. — October, 2011 — Mitsubishi Electric Automation, Inc. now offers an EtherNet/IP (EtherNet Industrial Protocol) option for its SD series of robots. The new EtherNet/IP option uses a single cable to connect the robot controller with a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), simplifying integration and reducing the cost of required hardware and robot setup. The EtherNet/IP cable plugs into a dedicated port on both the robot controller and PLC, eliminating the need to individually wire and route parallel I/O terminals, resulting in significant labor savings.

EtherNet/IP is a communications link to connect industrial devices. The EtherNet/IP is a well-established industrial Ethernet communication system with real-time capabilities. It extends commercial off-the-shelf Ethernet to the CIP (Common Industrial Protocol) — the same upper-layer protocol and object model found in DeviceNet and ControlNet. CIP allows EtherNet/IP and DeviceNet users to apply the same objects and profiles for plug-and-play interoperability among devices from multiple vendors and in multiple sub-nets. When combined, DeviceNet and EtherNet/IP promote transparency from sensors to the enterprise software.

The benefits of Mitsubishi Electric Automation's Ethernet/IP option can be most realized in systems with multiple robots where it can considerably decrease setup time and reduce hardware costs.

About Mitsubishi Electric Automation, Inc.

Mitsubishi Electric Automation, Inc., in Vernon Hills, Ill., offers a comprehensive line of factory automation solutions. Products include programmable automation controllers, programmable logic controllers, human machine interfaces, AC variable frequency drives, servo amplifiers and motors, motion controllers, control software, computerized numerical control systems and robots. For a broad range of factory automation applications, visit the Mitsubishi Electric Automation web site at www.meau.com.

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