

Mechatrolink members association is growing fast in North America, with 50 of its 900 member companies located in the U.S. and Canada

The Mechatrolink Members Association (MMA) announced that its membership has reached the 900 member plateau, including 50 firms in North America. The MMA is a group of Mechatrolink product developers and users who promote the use of Mechatrolink, an industrial network optimized for motion control.

The MMA is an independent non-profit organization that makes Mechatrolink specifications and operating parameters available to all. The organization also works to ensure that products labeled as MMA-compatible meet the relevant specifications. The MMA is continually improving network performance and actively recruiting new members.

“Mechatrolink is the most widely used motion control network in Asia,” says Derek Lee, a representative of MMA North America, “We also welcome the relatively large number of North American companies to the MMA.”

Mechatrolink connects devices such as servo motors, servo amps and I/O to each other and to motion controllers such as PLCs, PACs and motion controllers. Mechatrolink is available in both RS-485 and Ethernet versions, operates at speeds up to 100 Mbps, and can support up to 62 simultaneous devices.

“It’s rapidly reaching the point where, to sell machine controls and factory automation into the Asian market, a company’s best approach is to use Mechatrolink,” says Lee.

North American members include Cleveland Motion Controls, National Instruments, Manufacturing Data Systems, Phoenix Contact, Red Lion Controls, Texas Instruments, Turck, Yaskawa and many others.

Over the last 20 years since Mechatrolink was established, more than 2 million Mechatrolink devices have been shipped, and more than 300 different products have been certified to Mechatrolink specifications. Device profiles for motion nodes have been clearly defined and proved effective over two decades of development and use.

MMA provides worldwide support for Mechatrolink with affiliates in Germany, Japan, China, Korea and the U.S.—and Mechatrolink is in the process of becoming an official international IEC standard for industrial communication networks.



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