

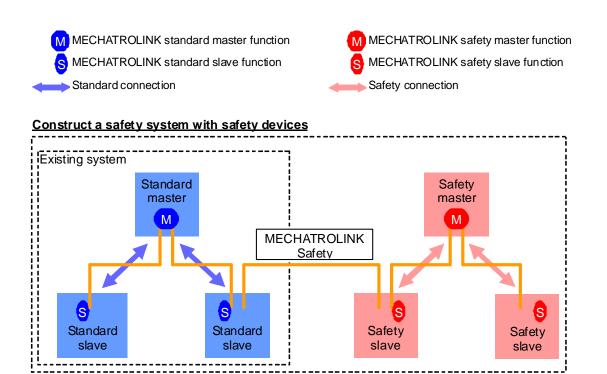
August 1, 2011

Certification of MECHATROLINK Safety Protocol!

The Safety Working Group authorized by the MECHATROLINK Members Association consists of 7 corporate members: Inter Factory Partners Co., Ltd.; Digital Electronics Corporation; Nikki Denso Co., Ltd.; HIMA JAPAN; Magnescale Co., Ltd.; YASKAWA ELECTRIC CORPORATION; and YOKOGAWA ELECTRIC CORPORATION. The Safety Working Group completed a list of specifications for the communications protocol of the MECHATROLINK field network that meets safety standards. Certification was received after an independent third party, TÜV Rheinland, confirmed that these specifications satisfied the requirements of IEC61508 safety integrity level SIL3.

The MMA's next step will be a study on the implementation of these MECHATROLINK Safety protocols for a safety master and safety slaves.

The MECHATROLINK Safety protocol and the MECHATROLINK standard protocol can co-exist on the same network. A safety system can be constructed by simply adding a safety master such as safety PLC and safety slaves such as safety I/O devices to the existing system. Also no special cable is required for connecting MECHATROLINK Safety compliant devices, but standard MECHATROLINK cables can used. Up to 61 Safety slave devices can be connected.



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