



ACHEMA Special Issue

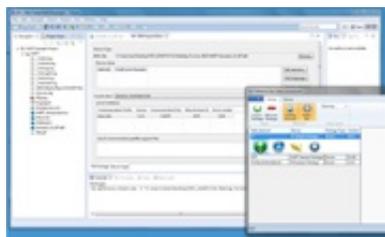
June 10, 2015



FieldComm Group to Debut at ACHEMA 2015 in Germany

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FieldComm Group Delivers FDI Tools to the Automation Market

The FieldComm Group is supporting the implementation of Field Device Integration (FDI) technology by distributing compliant specifications, tools and host components for the FOUNDATION Fieldbus, HART, PROFIBUS and PROFINET protocols. This effort will assist automation manufacturers in the development of FDI Device Packages and compatible host systems.

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Our Mission

Develop, manage and promote global standards for integrating digital devices into automation system architectures while protecting process-automation investments in the HART and FOUNDATION Fieldbus communication technologies.

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With 170,000 attendees from more than 100 countries and 3,800 exhibitors, AICHEMA is the most comprehensive event for process manufacturing. By creating a larger-than-life "Technology Wall" in Hall 11.0, Booth E43, the FieldComm Group will show attendees how it is "connecting the world of process automation" through solutions to integrate valuable digital data available from intelligent field devices.

The FieldComm Group plans to stage an interoperable technology demonstration featuring nearly 40 leading suppliers and over 70 devices integrated into both new and legacy systems. The display will include leading automation solutions such as FOUNDATION Fieldbus, HART, HART-IP and WirelessHART, as well as the Field Device Integration (FDI) standard.



According to FieldComm Group President and CEO Ted Masters, the AICHEMA 2015 exhibition marks a significant milestone for stakeholders involved in developing, managing and promoting global standards for digital device integration. "As one of the world's leading process industry fairs, AICHEMA is the prime venue to debut the FieldComm Group and present our vision to end users, suppliers, system integrators and others. We look forward to participating in this major event."

ACHEMA attendees are encouraged to learn about recent advancements in intelligent instrumentation and digital communication protocols. A live demonstration of FDI technology will explain how industrial operations benefit from the latest device integration solutions. The FDI specification, developer tools and host components were released in March 2015, and the FieldComm Group is now the primary source for assistance with developing FDI-based devices and host systems for FOUNDATION Fieldbus, HART and PROFIBUS.

The FieldComm Group booth will also include individual company kiosks hosted by major automation vendors supporting open and interoperable standard technologies. The suppliers

will showcase their compliant products and integration tools, and experts will be on hand to answer questions and demonstrate how connecting and integrating device information delivers value to the enterprise.

For more information about the AICHEMA 2015 exhibit, please visit www.fieldcommgroup.org.

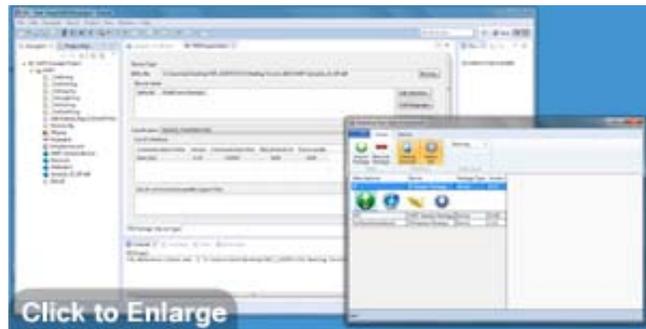
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Major automation industry foundations and controls & instrumentation suppliers established FDI Cooperation, LLC to standardize the integration of field devices into host systems. This effort combined the advantages of Field Device Tool (FDT) technology and Electronic Device Description Language (EDDL) in a single solution.

With the dissolution of FDI Cooperation, LLC in July, the FieldComm Group will become the home for FDI technology. According to President and CEO Ted Masters, the organization is committed to delivering FDI tools across the leading automation protocols, as well as driving enhancement and adoption of the technology as the integration standard for the marketplace.



"The FieldComm Group will provide comprehensive support for FDI development, which includes technical assistance and conformance testing around the world," Master said. "Our goal is to ensure a high-quality standard that maintains interoperability between protocols and vendors, and enables backwards compatibility between generations of field devices and host systems."

Approval of the FDI specification as part of the emerging International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) 62769 standard is expected by mid-2015. At the core of the specification is the FDI Device Package, which includes everything a host system needs to integrate an intelligent device. A single FDI Device Package can scale according to the complexities and requirements of instruments, making it easier for automation suppliers to develop and integrate device information and configurations across a wide range of host systems and protocols.

Developers can implement and test FDI Device Packages using the FDI Integrated Development Environment (IDE), which helps instrumentation manufacturers create solutions for FOUNDATION Fieldbus, HART and PROFIBUS devices. Electronic Device Descriptions (EDDs) are created with the help of an editor and converted to the encoded file format by means of "tokenizing" (the binary coding of an EDD). The encoded EDD, the UIP developed using Visual Studio, and the attachments are then combined to form an FDI Device Package. A runtime environment (reference host) runs the FDI Packages for tests and debugging. Finally, a test engine is used to automatically run FDI Package conformance tests.

Host system manufacturers may utilize FDI Common Host Components for host systems such as device management tools, asset management tools, and process automation systems. They allow for rapid development and ensure FDI Device Packages behave consistently across different systems. FDI Common Host Components fully support the new unified EDD file format for FOUNDATION Fieldbus, HART and PROFIBUS devices, as well as existing FOUNDATION Fieldbus and HART EDDs to protect end-user investments. The EDD Engine supports the entire language scope of EDD in a multiprotocol manner, in accordance with IEC 61804-3, and is backward compatible with existing EDD formats.

For more information about FDI developer resources, please visit www.fieldcommgroup.org.