User Group founds the BiSS Association

as a Platform for the Open Source BiSS Interface

The open source BiSS interface turns over a new leaf. The bidirectional sensor interface introduced by iC-Haus in 2002 has now been licensed over 450 times free of charge and has established itself as a worldwide standard in encoder and drive technology. BiSS is bus-compatible and is characterized by the continuous communication of sensor and parameter data, especially in efficient and fast motor control systems.
The BiSS Safety protocol is TÜV-certified. With BiSS Line, the user group defined a transmission technology for the unchanged BiSS protocol in 1-cable-technology with essential unique features. The successful technical implementation of BiSS Line has been crucial to establish an independent user organization hosting an internet platform representing providers who there can interchange BiSS solutions. On September 28, 2017, 11 members founded the BiSS Association, which will already be represented at the SPS Drives exhibition in Nuremberg, Germany at the booths of the members who are sensor, encoder, and drive manufacturers, which as well-known BiSS users now also implement BiSS Line with BiSS Safety protocol.

BiSS Line uses standard cable and plugs components available on the market and transmits 8B10B-encoded BiSS data via RS485 PHYs in well-known 2-wire or 4-wire technology. The transmission rate is comparatively high with 12.5 MBaud. BiSS Line offers unique features as an open source interface and due to its bus structure for multiple slaves. However, it is essential to implement a Forward Error Correction (FEC) required for a high availability of data communication also via disturbed or low-quality cable and plug connections.

The BiSS Association identified the availability in a disturbed environment (robustness) as a requirement for the acceptance of 1-cable-technologies on the market. On the internet platform www.biss-interface.com, members exchange information on the development of open interfaces and report on their solutions and offers for the BiSS Interface. These include evaluation boards as master and slave PHYs, hardware

components (iCs, FPGAs, smart sensors), IPs, files, licenses and services, sensor systems and encoders, as well as complete drive solutions. The association also internationally recruits new members for collaboration and further development in the field of machine communication. The exchange platform also provides non-members with open access for their offers and inquiries concerning the BiSS interface.

Photo: BiSS Association founding meeting (left-to-right: Heiko Essinger (Elgo GmbH & Co. KG), Thomas Scholl (Dr. Fritz Faulhaber GmbH & Co. KG), Dr. Michael Löken (FRABA GmbH), Claus Tessari und Holger Schilling (TR-Electronic GmbH), Jonas Urlaub (Fritz Kübler GmbH), Dr. Heiner Flocke, Chairman (iC-Haus GmbH), Tobias Hanß (Wachendorff Automation GmbH & Co. KG), Jörg Paulus, Board-Member (FRABA GmbH), Reiner Berger (Kollmorgen Europe GmbH), Hartmut Unverricht (Balluff GmbH), Daniel Kleiner (Baumer IVO GmbH & Co. KG), Dr. Martin Linden und Alexander Ehnert, Treasurer (Hengstler GmbH))

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