

Latest upgrade extends connectivity of Mitsubishi Electric's compact MELSEC iQ-F series PLCs

Ratingen, Germany 31 October 2023

Mitsubishi Electric has updated its FX5-ENET Ethernet unit to offer advanced Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) capabilities within machines using MELSEC iQ-F series PLCs. End users and machine builders can now drive operational efficiency even further by leveraging expanded access to cloud computing, cybersecurity and email functions that support enhanced connectivity and data management.



[Source: Mitsubishi Electric Europe, Germany]

Thanks to a hardware update to the FX5-ENET Ethernet module for iQ-F series PLCs, it is now possible to collect data in the Cloud, in line with IIoT principles. As a result, machines using this unit can benefit from data-

driven analytics to support predictive maintenance strategies, simplify troubleshooting and improving productivity. Even more, a Cloud-based solution can help to drive profitability.

The Cloud connectivity function is supported by MQTT, a communications protocol that is optimised for IIoT devices and can maximise accessibility and enable the realisation of a wide range of applications. Ultimately, it is possible to benefit from advanced connectivity that support remote access.

In addition to this, the use of MQTT within the FX5-ENET Ethernet unit assists users in setting up seamlessly interconnected machines for smart operations while protecting their factories from cybersecurity threats. The protocol also includes key security features, such as encryption and digital certifications, that help to prevent, detect, respond to and address potential risks through retransmission if a message is not received, TLS encryption and client authentication.

Finally, encrypted email sending functions are built into the latest FX5-ENET Ethernet solution, with free email services, such as Gmail and Yahoo mail, supported. This means that operators can receive notifications via a secure SMTP server, improving availability, accessibility and responsiveness.

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With more than 100 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TOKYO: 6503) is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, energy, transportation and building equipment. Mitsubishi Electric enriches society with technology in the spirit of its “Changes for the Better.” The company recorded a revenue of 5,003.6 billion yen (U.S.\$ 37.3 billion*) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2023.

For more information, please visit www.MitsubishiElectric.com

**U.S. dollar amounts are translated from yen at the rate of ¥134=U.S.\$1, the approximate rate on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market on March 31, 2023.*

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Offering a vast range of automation and processing technologies, including controllers, drive products, power distribution and control products, electrical discharge machines, electron beam machines, laser processing machines, computerized numerical controllers, and industrial robots, Mitsubishi Electric helps bring higher productivity – and quality – to the factory floor. In addition, its extensive service networks around the globe provide direct communication and comprehensive support to customers. The global slogan “Automating the World” shows the company’s approach to leverage automation for the betterment of society, through the application of advanced technology, sharing know how and supporting customers as a trusted partner.

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Factory Automation EMEA

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e-F@ctory is Mitsubishi Electric's integrated concept to build reliable and flexible manufacturing systems that enable users to achieve many of their high speed, information driven manufacturing aspirations. Through its partner solution activity, the e-F@ctory Alliance, and its work with open network associations such as the CC-Link Partners Association (CLPA), users can build comprehensive solutions based on a wide ranging "best in class" principle.

In summary, e-F@ctory and the e-F@ctory Alliance enable customers to achieve integrated manufacturing but still retain the ability to choose the most optimal suppliers and solutions.

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