Press Release

Networking Now Standardized in Special Purpose Cars

Vector supports CIA447 communications protocol with software components and development tools

Stuttgart, 09-14-2007 – A working committee of numerous automotive OEMs, module producers and communications specialists has – under the auspices of CiA – come to an agreement on a CANopen-based communications protocol. This enables easy integration of taxi meters, radio systems, roof bars and other electronically controlled devices in taxis, police cars and other official vehicles from different automotive OEMs. In this area, Vector offers software components for implementing the ECUs, a modified version of the CANoe.CANopen development and test tool, and consultation and project support.

Until standardized communication was established, special purpose car development was characterized by great cost and effort, risks were difficult to assess, and the infrastructure in the service area was unresolved. Consensus on a common standard applying beyond OEM boundaries is therefore a milestone in the development of special vehicles. OEMs now have the opportunity to offer a gateway, including wire harness, that provides all essential vehicle information and also implements the firewall. A universal connector and standardized CiA447 communications protocol lets module producers design the hardware and software independent of the OEM.

A special added benefit is uniform diagnostics. Until now, it was nearly impossible to troubleshoot errors at service sites, and this resulted in high costs or irritated customers. Now any standard diagnostic tester can localize defective devices and generate clear and unambiguous error messages.

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Right from the start Vector has participated in the standardization process by its active committee work and parallel verification of the defined mechanisms. Module producers and vehicle integrators benefit from this, since they get early support of CiA447 in the Vector tool chain. A CANopen protocol stack is available for implementation in ECUs. Besides supporting standard CANopen it also supports supplemental functions such as full SDO intermeshing and LSS Fast Scan. This applies as well to the proven simulation and test tool CANoe.CANopen and the bus analysis tool CANalyzer.CANopen.

For further information on the Internet go to: www.canopen-solutions.com

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About Vector Informatik GmbH (Revised: 09/01/2007):
Vector Informatik is the leading producer of software tools and components for networking in electronic systems based on CAN, LIN, FlexRay and MOST as well as a number of CAN-based protocols.
This know-how is conveyed in the form of products or as a comprehensive consultation package with system and software engineering. Workshops and seminars round out our multifaceted training program.
Worldwide customers in the automotive, heavy-duty vehicle, transport and control engineering fields rely on solutions and products from the independently-owned Vector Group.
Vector Informatik, founded in 1988, currently employs 750 people together with Vector Consulting GmbH and in the year 2006 achieved sales of 105 million euros. In addition to its headquarters in Stuttgart, Vector Informatik also has an international presence with subsidiaries in the USA, Japan, France and Sweden.