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**Manufacturing Automation, Instrumentation & Process Controls**

MCI (P) 009/07/2013 | ISSN 0219/5615 | PPS 1561/06/2013 (022960)

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## PI Arrives In Singapore

**THE** Profibus/Profinet Association South East Asia conducted its first Profibus/Profinet seminar of 2014 in Singapore at the NTUC building on May 9, 2014. A total of 100 people from various industries, distributors, system integrators and universities attended.

The seminar was supported by Anixter, Leoni Kerpen, Pepperl + Fuchs, Phoenix Contact, Posital Fraba, Siemens and Turck. These companies provided live demonstrations of their products and solutions at a Microfair, that gave seminar participants the chance to discuss face to face with the experts.

Karsten Schneider, chairman,

PI and Xavier Schmidt, marketing group leader, Profinet were in attendance. Mr Schneider gave a deep look into the news and what is going on in the world market, while Mr Schmidt gave insight into the Profinet marketing working group and what is happening at the moment towards standardisation and quality tests.

The Profibus/Profinet multivendor demo was introduced. This showed the wireless integration of Profibus-DP/PA into Profinet, also the integration of different products and protocols. The live engineering of an IO-System was demonstrated along with

Profinet's web diagnostic functions and remote services.

### Topics Discussed

The seminar had three parts; news and market updates on Profibus/Profinet; a Profibus Block, with presentations on installations and best practices; and a Profinet Block with presentations on innovative Industrial Ethernet solutions as well as the new features available.

The chairman of the Profibus/Profinet International, Karsten Schneider, presented the latest news on Profibus/Profinet International status, including the world sales figures. Profibus increased its installed base by 3.6 Mio nodes in 2014, which



Karsten Schneider (left) and Xaver Schmidt (right) sharing their experience.



Members who supported this event.

means the total installed base is now in excess of 47.4 Mio nodes. Profinet also grew, from 5.8 Mio nodes in 2013 to 7.6 Mio nodes in 2014. He also introduced a reference story out of Mexico in the Automotive industry, which showed the strength and clear advantages of Profinet.

“PI’s biggest strength is really as a global organisation. We want to provide access for both end users and for device manufacturers locally in the local language. If you want to build a plant and you have questions on how to lay it out, how to design the network, and so on, then there is a need for local expertise,” commented Karsten

Schneider, chairman, PI.

“As such, there is always a competence centre in your language and country. We now have 51 competence centres all over the world. This gives a point of contact that can give you real detailed technical answers to issues when you design a plant or run into trouble after building it. There is always somebody in your country that can come into your plant and help you figure out what is going on. I think this is what makes the PI organisation unique,” he added.

Teo Puay Yong of Pepper + Fuchs presented best practice and regulations for setting up a Profibus network. This presentation was

based on his years of experience with real installations.

The day ended with presentations on Profinet from Mr Schmidt and Rockel Babagay of Phoenix Contact. With Profinet, PI has developed a comprehensive Industrial Ethernet networking standard from the experience gained from Profibus. The result is one open and manufacturer-neutral standard. Profinet is designed to meet all of the requirements for using Ethernet at all automation levels, and applications. It is designed to be flexible, reliable and robust in any industrial environment. Profinet also has redundancy on the device level, shared device, intelligent devices, wireless connectivity and much more.

### In Summary

This seminar in Singapore is part of a continuing seminar series in ASEAN countries. Bernd Lieberth, chairman, PI SEA said: “We achieved a high participation rate thanks to the support of our local members. The visit of Mr Schneider and Mr Schmidt also added a high interest to this event. We will continue our seminar series with Thailand next on the list. More details and dates will be posted on our webpage.”

“These seminars are important for us to understand the different needs of the different markets. If you go to Europe they have certain needs, and if you go to America their needs are different. For me it is important to understand those different needs because we want to create one standard that acts globally and not just for a certain area,” commented Mr Schneider.