

PRESS RELEASE



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Responsible:

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Fast Fieldbus for Automotive Networking

FlexRay in the Context of the »RealTime Suite«

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Kithara Software, innovator for industrial software solutions under Windows, has integrated the support of the network protocol FlexRay into the company's real-time extension. This way, the field bus system, commonly used in automotive networking, can be controlled with hard real-time capabilities, which is often employed in fields such as test system development and the supplier industry.

Following the integration of the automotive protocols CAN and LIN into the »RealTime Suite«, FlexRay is now supported with guaranteed reaction times within the Kithara real-time system as well.

“Due to the growing networking and extensive digitalization of mechatronic systems, FlexRay is being introduced into an increasing number of technologically advanced automobiles, thanks to its high transfer rate. Real-time capabilities for FlexRay open up the possibility for high-precision analysis of the communication of components and overall automotive

systems”, Uwe Jesgarz, managing director of Kithara Software GmbH, explained.

With 10 Mbit/s, FlexRay is especially utilized for high-end functions such as driver assistant and chassis control systems. Using dual-channel wiring, safety-critical applications are able to use one communication channel for redundant data transfer. For non-safety segments, on the other hand, the secondary channel can even be employed to double the transfer speed. Concerning networking, FlexRay supports bus and star topologies as well as a combination of the two. In this manner, the easy handling and cost efficiency of the bus network can be combined with the performance capabilities and stability of star topologies.

Similar to the testing process of CAN and LIN networks, FlexRay with hard real-time is especially important for test system developers. When it comes to measuring and control in this field, precise test results can only be achieved with strictly defined jitter behaviour.

About Kithara Software GmbH

Kithara Software is a specialist for real-time solutions, especially for the Windows® operating systems family. The real-time extension RealTime Suite is a comprehensive system library for hardware-dependent programming, communication, automation and image processing in real-time. The software is an easy-to-use and powerful technical basis for advanced applications in robotics, image processing, measurement and control engineering as well as automation. It is the key element in machine building, for testing rigs and other specialized applications. Kithara Software has a subsidiary in the USA as well as a representation in China and supports global companies in their innovative projects.

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