

PRESS RELEASE

Combined controller and control unit functionality A flexible integrated solution for closed-loop control tasks in process applications

Ratingen, 5 September 2008 – Mitsubishi Electric has extended its existing range of products for the process industry with two new controllers for the MELSEC System Q automation platform. Specially designed for the needs of autonomous small plants and sub-processes, the new programmable controllers are a space-saving alternative to conventional closed-loop controller hardware. They provide a tailored and inexpensive entry to the world of process automation, particularly in combination with the graphical HMI control units of the GOT1000 series.

Simultaneously, the company is also enhancing the functionality of its existing range of processors for complex control tasks in large process plants. All the process CPU modules now come with support for the high-speed controller network CC-Link IE (Control and Communication Link Industrial Ethernet), which has a data transfer rate of one gigabit per second.

The new high-performance Q02PHCPU and Q06PHCPU processors are fast (cycle time 34 nanoseconds per logical instruction) and have ample program memory (28,000 and 60,000 PLC program steps) for small and medium sized process control tasks. CPU models with more memory (up to 256,000 program steps) are also available for more demanding automation tasks.

Designed for use in both single-processor and multi-processor mode on the MELSEC System Q platform, the new programmable logic controllers feature 52 special additional process control functions. In addition to standard control algorithms like high-speed

proportional-integral-derivative (PID) controllers, the function library also includes complex PID cascade blocks, eliminating the difficult and time-consuming task of programming them manually.

The controllers are supported by PX Developer, a user-friendly graphical PLC programming software package. Designed specially for the needs of process applications, PX Developer makes developing, debugging and monitoring process and control programs quick and easy. The controllers are programmed by drag and drop using the Function Block Diagram language: You just select the ready-to-use function blocks with the mouse, position them on the screen and connect them with graphical elements.

The latest version features a new function for automatic generation of process control interface templates for the GT15 family of the GOT1000 control unit range, together with the associated GT Designer2 software package. In addition to saving development time and costs this also helps to make the control processes clear and transparent to the user. For example, the graphical control templates for each controller can be displayed directly on the control unit screen. Additional screen templates are also available for controller configuration, setup, alarm management, historical trend monitoring and diagnostics – all without any need for additional programming.

Expansion and special function modules are available to extend the controllers' capabilities and tailor the configuration to application needs. Users can choose from nearly 100 special function, network and I/O modules, including a large range of high-resolution analog signal processing modules with isolated input and output channels, and also temperature acquisition modules.

Over the last few years Mitsubishi Electric has continuously extended the modular MELSEC System Q controller platform to cater to the needs of the process industry. Features now include control-

ler systems with reliable redundant architecture, support for hot-swapping of components during operation and high flexibility for multi-level systems with transparent communications, combined with a high degree of system availability and precisely tailored configurations. The multi-processor architecture of System Q, which can accommodate up to four CPU modules on a single platform, has many advantages for the process industry. Among other things it makes it possible to integrate a range of different tasks in a single controller, whilst at the same time processing each type of task in isolation with specialised CPU controllers.

Caption:

Efficient combination of process control and control unit functions: The PX Developer software automatically generates screen interface templates for the HMI control units of the GOT1000 series. The software package is specially designed for the process CPU modules of Mitsubishi Electric's MELSEC System Q controller platform.

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