

## Press Release

### Rexroth's Open Core Interface allows machine builders to create individual functions without a PLC

Machine builders can gain a competitive edge with new capabilities for high-level language programming and access to the core of the control system

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For Immediate Use  
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Rexroth's standard control platforms support the company's Open Core Interface, which allows the expansion of individual machine functions created with high-level programming languages.

**Part of its Open Core Engineering (OCE) framework for PLC automation, Rexroth's Open Core Interface technology provides a new degree of freedom for mechanical engineering and machine programming. The Open Core Interface allows for high-level language programming with enhanced access to the core of the control system, enabling machine builders to create their own individual functions without the need for additional hardware.**

There are often no economical alternatives to standard control systems. As a result, machine manufacturers were previously limited to implementing the same functions available to all other competitors. Rexroth has now done away with this limitation. For the first time machine manufacturers can create individual and real-time machine functions outside of the PLC program with Rexroth's Open Core Interface technology.

The standard Rexroth control platforms IndraLogic XLC (PLC), IndraMotion MLC (motion-logic) and IndraMotion MTX (CNC) support the direct implementation of

Contact for Journalists:  
Bosch Rexroth Corporation  
Susan Strauss  
2315 City Line Road  
Bethlehem, PA 18017  
Telephone (610) 694-8352  
Fax (610) 954-8670  
susan.strauss@boschrexroth-us.com

Phase 3 Marketing & Communications  
John Agresti  
Laura Craft  
1435 West Morehead St., Suite 200  
Charlotte, NC 28208  
Telephone (704) 704-0146  
John.Agrestic@phase3mc.com  
Laura.Craft@phase3mc.com

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individual high-level language programs into the control system. The programs have direct access to the firmware, enabling machine manufacturers to create control algorithms for complex functions and kinematics quickly and independently. The programmers do not require any PLC skills and can use standard high-level languages such as C/C++ instead.

Rexroth also provides machine manufacturers with an extensive library that programmers can use to directly access the control function when developing individual functions. This enables them to directly control axes without writing a single line of a PLC program. Using Open Core Interface is therefore the ideal way to protect the machine manufacturers' expertise.

## **Shorter cycle times and higher productivity**

This new degree of freedom replaces the additional control hardware previously required for complex process functions such as quality assurance with camera systems, register control for optimized material processing, or decentralized order scheduling at the machine. Previously, machine manufacturers had to perform these process flows—which are programmed in high-level languages—outside of the machine control system on a separate control. The need to communicate between both control systems increased the complexity of the automation architecture and the engineering workload.

Direct processing in the machine control system reduces this complexity and significantly shortens the cycle times. Manufacturers of printing presses, for example, can therefore lower system costs with Rexroth's Open Core Interface by completely relocating the register control into the Rexroth motion-logic system. This prevents registration errors and increases productivity.

## **Efficient PLC automation**

In addition to the new interface technology, Rexroth's overall OCE platform includes all the software tools, function tool kits and open standards for efficient PLC automation. The predefined technology functions cover almost all standard tasks and lower engineering costs and effort. Rexroth continuously focuses on open standards as part of this process. For the machine manufacturer, this means the software they create is more future-proof.

## ***About Bosch Rexroth***

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Fax (610) 954-8670  
[susan.strauss@boschrexroth-us.com](mailto:susan.strauss@boschrexroth-us.com)

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Laura Craft  
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Charlotte, NC 28208  
Telephone (704) 704-0146  
[John.Agrestic@phase3mc.com](mailto:John.Agrestic@phase3mc.com)  
[Laura.Craft@phase3mc.com](mailto:Laura.Craft@phase3mc.com)

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## **About Bosch**

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*The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 402,000 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2017). The company generated sales of 78.1 billion euros (\$88.2 billion) in 2017. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT company, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, smart cities, connected mobility, and connected manufacturing. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to deliver innovations for a connected life. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 440 subsidiary and regional companies in 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing, engineering, and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. At 125 locations across the globe, Bosch employs some 64,500 associates in research and development.*

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Telephone (704) 704-0146  
[John.Agrestic@phase3mc.com](mailto:John.Agrestic@phase3mc.com)  
[Laura.Craft@phase3mc.com](mailto:Laura.Craft@phase3mc.com)

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