



Parker Expands EtherNet/IP Functionality

Additions include Aries Controller and improved ACR9xx0 controller.

Parker's Electromechanical Automation Division is pleased to announce new additions to its EtherNet/IP communication capabilities. Coming in October is a new and improved EtherNet/IP adapter implementation for the ACR9xx0 family and Aries Controller, as well as EtherNet/IP for the Aries Controller.

Developed by Rockwell in the 1990s and released in 2001, EtherNet/IP (Ethernet Industrial Protocol) is considered the most complete industrial Ethernet network solution available for manufacturing automation. It is a member of the DeviceNet and ControlNet family of Common Industrial Protocols (CIP) and provides users with the network tools to deploy standard Ethernet technology for manufacturing applications while enabling Internet and enterprise connectivity, permitting real-time control and information flow. EtherNet/IP allows multiple devices from different manufacturers to communicate seamlessly on the factory floor. Needless to say, it is the most popular industrial Ethernet network in North America, though it is also used extensively throughout Asia.



Parker introduced the EtherNet/IP protocol into its motion controllers in 2005. The EtherNet/IP protocol is enabled in all ACR9000 controllers, which allows the ACR9000 to operate as a server/slave device within an EtherNet/IP network. No special order code or software is required. The EtherNet/IP protocol can run alongside standard TCP/IP, bringing together plant-floor automation and office networks. EtherNet/IP capability gives ACR9000 users a popular connectivity option to PLCs and other master/scanner devices supporting the protocol.

Now both the Aries and ACR9000 are delivered with EtherNet/IP communication. The original implementation from the 9000 has been improved with better performance and new functionality based on key user feedback. Machine builders and OEMs will benefit by being able to use a common code base for HMI and PLC projects.

Highlights for Aries and ACR9000:

- Class 3 explicit messaging
- Utilizes existing Acroloop CIP driver with InteractX and Xpress
- Connectivity to Rockwell CompactLogix and ControlLogix PLCs
- Reading and writing of controller parameter and flags
- Coordinated move commands

ACR9000 controllers also implement Class 1 implicit messaging, with update rates improved from 100ms to as low as 1ms with the new operating system.

HMI projects created with the old ACR Aries driver can be updated in minutes to take advantage of the performance boost by using EtherNet/IP. Multiple Aries controllers can be commanded from a single HMI without tag limits. Existing Aries Controllers or ACR9000s can be updated in the field with a simple operating system download, available on parkermotion.com.

As always, Parker backs its products with quality control and field support, including:

- Improved documentation
- Better internal knowledge
- New RSLogix program examples
- Tested and approved by a leading Rockwell expert
- Beta sites running since July
- Sample projects for Aries Controller with Interact and InteractX

For more information on Parker's latest EtherNet/IP products, please contact Jim Wiley at 707-584-2541, or email him at jwiley@parker.com.

www.parkermotion.com