

# EtherCAT Technology Group Antitrust Policy

#### **Preamble**

The EtherCAT Technology Group ("ETG") is the forum in which end user companies, OEM machine building companies and automation suppliers join forces. The purpose of the group is to support, promote and advance the EtherCAT as an open technology. Consistent with this mission, and to foster compliance with all applicable antitrust and competition laws, ETG has adopted this Antitrust Policy.

# 1. Scope

This policy applies to all members, officers, representatives and directors of ETG, and all other participants in ETG activities ("Participants"), e.g. employees of member companies participating in the ETG activities (including committees and other subgroups). Compliance with the policy is mandatory. Participants are also strongly encouraged to comply with their employer's company's antitrust policy.

#### 2. Violations

Violations can result in restrictions or complete bans on an individual's or company's participation in ETG activities and expulsion from the organization. Individuals and companies may also be subject to criminal prosecution and civil damages.

## 3. Policy

Participants in ETG activities shall refrain from any conduct which violates antitrust legislation whenever the conduct could reasonably be believed to be part of ETG activities (e.g., at ETG committee meetings, during ETG conference calls, or in informal discussions surrounding or contemporaneous with formal ETG activities), including but not limited to:

- Discussions and/or agreements involving prices or pricing information, especially margins, profits, and internal cost information and Participants' (or Participant's employer's) expectations as to their future prices or internal costs or output information.
- Discussions of a participant's marketing strategies.
- Discussions and/or agreements regarding how customers and geographical areas are to be divided among competitors.
- Discussions and/or agreements concerning the exclusion of competitors from markets.
- Discussions and/or agreements concerning boycotting or group refusals to deal with actual or potential competitor(s), vendor(s), or supplier(s).



Meetings shall follow a written agenda distributed in advance. Minutes will be prepared after the meeting to provide a concise summary of important matters discussed and actions taken or conclusions reached.

In the event of concern regarding potential antitrust implications of a discussion, discussion must be discontinued pending resolution of the matter through the executive director or legal counsel, if necessary.

In the event that any Participant has a concern about potential antitrust implications of discussion during a meeting, he or she shall interrupt discussion and state that concern immediately. If discussion is not terminated and the concern resolved, the concerned Participant should state that he or she is leaving the meeting for that reason, and leave.

# 4. Activities Affecting Competitors

From time to time ETG's mission may require ETG to make decisions or undertake other legitimate activities that may affect the commercial interests of specific companies. Those decisions and actions should be undertaken only to advance ETG's mission or for another legitimate ETG purpose and not for the purpose of giving an industry participant or group of participants a competitive advantage over other participants.

## 5. Questions and Guidance

Every Participant in ETG activities is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy and with applicable antitrust and competition laws. ETG should consult their company's antitrust counsel for guidance on antitrust compliance generally. Questions about this policy should be directed to the Board of Directors.

This Antitrust Policy was approved by the ETG Board of Directors on March 11, 2013.