

Mitsubishi Electric launches the new MELSEC iQ-F series compact PLC

Dublin, Ireland, 22nd of July, 2015

Mitsubishi Electric has expanded its iQ range of PLCs with the compact MELSEC iQ-F series, building on the legacy of the market-leading FX platform and broadening the range of available applications with a comprehensive set of “built-in” functions that offer features only previously found as add-ons or which did not exist at all in this category of PLCs. Sharing many of its features and concepts with other iQ PLCs, the iQ-F series provides all of the benefits that users have come to appreciate in the well-known compact FX series but with more unified interconnectivity with other iQ models, a unified programming environment and a much improved user experience.

The first model in the iQ-F series is the FX5U, offering high performance in a compact, cost effective package. Tsuiko Shibagaki, European Business Development Manager for compact PLCs comments: “The FX5U continues the FX tradition of total flexibility with a huge range of new and existing add-on options which further enhance the built-in functions of Ethernet, analogue I/O, position control, security, communications and networking functions incorporated as standard. The FX5U will provide users with the ability to specify more powerful systems but with fewer overall components, saving time and cost.”

The FX5U supports the user with functions which to date have only been available on larger PLCs, such as motion control and sophisticated security features. For example, the 4-axis simple motion module brings advanced motion control in an easy to use format for applications such as food and

beverage packaging, providing features such as torque control and circular interpolation.

With security being a key issue today, the FX5U provides comprehensive security features to protect both the developer's intellectual property and the final installation. Each PLC can have a security 'key' that allows users to easily manage access to both software and hardware.

All of this functionality is combined with a processing speed of 34ns per instruction. MELSEC iQ-F realises high-speed system bus communication at speeds of 1.5 k words/ms and achieves maximum performance even when using the intelligent function module with large amounts of data. The result is a platform that allows users, especially machine builders, to standardise on the FX5U in a host of applications that would previously have required much larger and more costly PLCs.

The FX5U is programmed using the new GX Works3 software which provides an intuitive, graphical, structured programming environment. GX Works3 offers a wide range of programming options including dynamic labels, parameterisation instead of programming and reduced development time with the FB module (Function Block). GX Works3 utilises drag-and-drop hardware and software configuration, which can drastically reduce the overall configuration time, whilst the intuitive approach to programming reduces development time and costs.

The new MELSEC iQ-F Series reaches new applications thanks to its high-speed system bus, extensive built-in functions and network support, bringing your business up to the next level.

The FX5U is the first PLC to be released in the iQ-F series, which will extend over the coming years offering even more choice in the compact PLC range.

Picture captions:



Picture 1: Mitsubishi Electric has expanded its iQ range of PLCs with the compact MELSEC iQ-F series, building on the legacy of the market leading FX platform and broadening the range of available applications with a comprehensive set of “built-in” functions.

[Source: Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V.]



Picture 2: The 4-axis simple motion module brings sophisticated motion control in an easy to use format for applications such as food and beverage packaging,

providing features such as torque control and circular interpolation.

[Source: Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V.]

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With over 90 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products to both corporate clients and general consumers all over the world, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, as well as in products for the energy sector, water and waste water, transportation and building equipment.

With around 124.000 employees the company recorded consolidated group sales of 39,3 billion US Dollar* in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2014.

Our sales offices, research & development centres and manufacturing plants are located in over 30 countries.

Mitsubishi Electric Europe, Industrial Automation – Irish Branch is located in Dublin, Ireland. It is a part of the European Factory Automation Business Group based in Ratingen, Germany which in turn is part of Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V., a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Japan.

The role of Industrial Automation – Irish Branch is to manage sales, service and support across its network of local distributors throughout Ireland.

**Exchange rate 103 Yen = 1 US Dollar, Stand 31.3.2014 (Source: Tokyo Foreign ExchangeMarket)*

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