

Press release

Scalable performance in the automation system

Hamelin/Dusseldorf, May 04, 2023. With Lenze's new generation of controllers, customers can scale the performance in their automation landscape quickly. IT and OT interact because the new controllers are an integral part of Lenze's automation system. The goal: making engineering easier and thus reduce working time.

Machine builders increasingly seek scalable performance in their automation landscape, especially in their controllers. Lenze knows the market's needs very well and has therefore fundamentally revised its controller portfolio in recent months. At Hanover Fair, the automation specialists will present the c430 - the smallest model in the new controller product family. "The c430 is the downward closure. The customer can switch from the c520 or c550, for example, to the c430 without losing code," promises product manager Andreas Werner. This allows for much more targeted and efficient automation and upscaling of performance when needed. "Many machine builders don't always need high-performance systems, or the requirements grow over the years," Werner adds. He sees applications primarily in the wood and metal industries (for example, in saws), packaging (wrapping and strapping), paper (crosscutting), and textiles (winding, spinning). The new controller comes with EtherCAT, OPC UA, Profinet, and 512 KB retain data. An ARM Cortex A9 is installed as the CPU.

Interaction of controller and visualization

Like all Lenze controllers, the c430 also features FAST UI Runtime. In the interaction of the EASY UI Designer and FAST UI Runtime applications, smaller machine builders can quickly develop good human-machine interfaces. The Lower Saxony-based company has invested in their visualization expertise for

several years. "Good visualization is crucial for the success of a machine. A good user experience (UX) promises process stability, more efficiency in operation, is an answer to the shortage of skilled workers in industry, and thus creates competitive advantages for the customer," explains Janis Pille, Product Manager Automation Systems. He is responsible for visualization at Lenze and, together with his team, consistently relies on web-based visualization. At the Hanover Fair, Pille and his team will present a product portfolio expansion with new web panels that can be integrated both in the field and in the control cabinet.

Lenze automation system

The interaction of visualization and the c430, c520, and c550 controllers illustrates how IT and OT grow together ideally and enable leaps in efficiency. Lenze has developed a software-based toolchain around the controllers and the drive technology, an entire automation system based on different apps. It supports the customer in engineering and relies on ready-to-use modules from the FAST application framework as well as templates and apps that enable customization while reducing development times. The applications range from the correct design of drives in the Easy System Designer, which transfers an item list to the EASY Product Finder, to the first project design to the PLC Designer. In the PLC Designer, you can start with a created hardware tree and write the PLC program using the many ready-made blocks from the FAST FAST library. A subsequent OEE optimization of the complete system is then ideally embedded directly in the Lenze Open Automation platform Nupano.

About Lenze

Lenze is a leading automation specialist and focuses on designing efficient and sustainable processes for production and material flow. For over 75 years, the company has been a pacesetter in automation and a strong partner at the side of its customers from the machine and plant manufacturing industry. With the help of a triad consisting of electrical engineering, software and a platform strategy, Lenze supports its customers in digitization and helps them to cut costs, optimize the utilization and lifecycle of machine systems and reduce their energy consumption. Lenze's portfolio consists of high-quality mechatronic solutions, powerful systems made of hardware and software for machine automation, and digital services for the machine and plant manufacturing industry.

The Lenze Group, headquartered in AERZEN, employs around 4,000 people globally and is represented in 45 countries. The company generated revenue amounting to 830 million euros across the Group in the 2021/2022 financial year.

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