New Product Announcement

PCN Converts Installed Serial (SCADA) Networks into Fully IP Enabled Interoperable Ethernet-over-RS485 (IP-485) Solutions

San Diego (February 2, 2010) – PCN Technology is now releasing its newest Grid MicroCircuits™ product. Based upon the company's core open standards patented conductive media technology, this product delivers advanced IP Enabled (TCP/IP) Ethernet functionality on existing serial twisted pair RS-485 networks.

EC-3482A/B External Network Module (OEM Design-In Modules also available)

Operational Benefits of EC-3482:

1. The EC-3482 Grid MicroCircuits™ module multiplexes medium bandwidth Ethernet data simultaneously with the existing RS-485 serial data operations. These new modules allow continued use of legacy SCADA protocols without degradation of existing network signals or limiting system functionality.

2. With IP-485 technology, users can now expand and update existing legacy serial data buses using twisted pair networks and additionally transport Ethernet communication on the same twisted pair of wire. The modules minimize RS-485 latency and guarantee "no serial packet chunking" during the transport of RS-485 data. This technology guarantees contiguous RS-485 data packet and data bit integrity allowing usage for Modbus RTU and other timing critical serial network protocols. No more data tunneling artifacts or timing mishaps due to TCP/IP Serial Converter inefficiencies.

3. Existing twisted pair wiring within multi-drop RS-485 networks can now carry multiple-node communication signals simultaneously for legacy serial communication as well as Multi-Node Ethernet network communication. No additions of CAT5 cabling are required and full multi-drop support means that installations avoid adding bundles of Ethernet cables in conduit and wiring trays.

Applications include commercial industrial and energy installations where added TCP/IP functionality is needed or required. Existing SCADA functionality and embedded firmware applications can remain the same for the legacy equipment while adding new Ethernet Networking capabilities. The IP-485 solution provided by the EC-3482 is essentially a modulated carrier system that adds Ethernet router capabilities to existing twisted pair wires. Existing SCADA infrastructures no longer need to change or obsolete their serial twisted pair serial networks. IP485™ adds desirable IP Enabled functionality while minimizing the associated costs of new wire, connectors, switches and other TCP/IP infrastructure needs that are often cost or labor prohibitive.

"We are particularly happy with this latest product" comments Venkat Shastri, CEO. "Industrial and Commercial OEM customers that utilize SCADA networks and require both SCADA solutions and advanced TCP/IP solutions can now meet all of their needs on the same existing installed twisted pair infrastructure without additional CAT5 runs, converters or switches."

EC3482A is available with an RS-485 (2-wire) interface plus a single Ethernet port. A Multi-Port Ethernet module is also available as EC3482B. Volume lead times are 12-16 weeks with EC3482A/B evaluation kits available now.

For more product information contact: daniel.drolet@pcntechnology.com
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About PCN Technology, Inc.

San Diego based PCN is an embedded networking company that designs, develops and commercializes its novel Grid MicroCircuits™ technology. Its products meet the immediate needs of industrial & commercial OEMs as well as utilities while simultaneously providing a platform for Smart Grid evolution. Based on award winning patented technologies, PCN Grid MicroCircuits™ provide universal open standard repurposing of copper infrastructure for true embedded networked solutions.