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National Instruments Expands NI-XNET Embedded Network Platform With Support for the LIN Communication Bus

New Interfaces are Ideal for Hardware-in-the-Loop Simulation, Rapid Control Prototyping, Bus Monitoring and Automation Control

AUSTIN, Texas – June 14, 2010 – National Instruments (Nasdaq: NATI) today announced new PXI and PCI interfaces that expand the NI-XNET platform to include support for the Local Interconnect Network (LIN) communication bus. The new NI PXI-8516 and NI PCI-8516 LIN interfaces make it possible for engineers and scientists to develop LIN applications in NI LabVIEW, NI LabWindows™/CVI and C/C++ for Windows and LabVIEW Real-Time OSs. As part of the NI-XNET platform, the new PXI and PCI interfaces are ideal for applications that require real-time, high-speed manipulation of many LIN frames and signals, such as hardware-in-the-loop simulation, rapid control prototyping, bus monitoring and automation control. In addition, the new interfaces provide integrated support for importing and using signals from LDF databases, which simplify scheduling and scaling of LIN messages on the bus.

NI-XNET is a family of high-performance and easy-to-use PXI- and PCI-based products designed to communicate with embedded networks including Controller Area Network (CAN), LIN and FlexRay. NI-XNET integrates easily with LabVIEW, uses the same API for CAN, LIN and FlexRay and automatically translates low-level frame data into usable engineering data. The new interfaces combine the performance and flexibility of low-level microcontroller interfaces with the speed and power of Windows and LabVIEW Real-Time OS development. They also can be integrated easily into desktop real-time PCs as well as real-time PXI systems.

Designed for performance and ease of use in demanding applications, the PXI and PCI interfaces are ideal for high-signal-count, low-latency environments. The interfaces feature the NI-XNET device-driven DMA engine for coupling the LIN bus to host memory, which reduces system latency from milliseconds to microseconds. The engine makes it possible for the onboard processor to move LIN frames and signals between the interface and the user program without CPU interrupts, freeing host processor time for processing complex models and applications.

For more information on National Instruments LIN products and the LIN bus, readers can visit www.ni.com/lin. Readers also can visit www.ni.com/xnet to view tutorials, example code and community resources on the NI-XNET platform.

About National Instruments

National Instruments (www.ni.com) is transforming the way engineers and scientists design, prototype and deploy systems for measurement, automation and embedded applications. NI empowers customers with off-the-shelf software such as NI LabVIEW and modular cost-effective hardware, and sells to a broad base of more than 30,000 different companies worldwide, with no one customer representing more than 3 percent of revenue and no one industry representing more than 15 percent of revenue. Headquartered in Austin, Texas, NI has more than 5,000 employees and direct operations in more than 40 countries. For the past 11 years, FORTUNE magazine has named NI one of the 100 best companies to work for in America. Readers can obtain investment information from the company's investor relations department by calling (512) 683-5090, e-mailing nati@ni.com or visiting www.ni.com/nati.

Pricing and Contact Information

NI PXI-8516
Priced* from $1,499; €1,049; ¥188,000
NI PCI-8516
Priced* from $1,499; €1,049; ¥188,000
Web: www.ni.com/lin
**Prices are subject to change without notice.*

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