

MatrikonOPC Announces Enhanced Support for the New OPC-UA (Unified Architecture) Specification

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MatrikonOPC is pleased to announce its plans to add OPC-UA (Unified Architecture) support in all its OPC products. As an extension to the existing OPC specification, OPC-UA enables data acquisition and communication between industrial plant-floor control systems and enterprise systems.

OPC-UA unifies various separate OPC specifications such as OPC DA (Data Access), OPC HDA (Historical Data Access), OPC A&E (Alarms and Events) and others into one. OPC-UA uses Microsoft's .NET technology for its communication infrastructure. Thus, products that support OPC-UA will be able to use XML Web Services for information transfer.

“MatrikonOPC will retrofit all existing OPC products with OPC-UA,” said Sean Leonard, OPC Product Manager at MatrikonOPC. “This will provide a smooth upgrade path as more applications begin to incorporate OPC-UA support. As new products come online, MatrikonOPC's applications will naturally communicate using any available OPC specification.”

OPC-UA eliminates the need for Microsoft's DCOM technology, in favor of .NET. Consequently, OPC-UA's performance will be slower, but some applications will benefit from its enhanced connectivity options. OPC-UA requires upgraded operating systems and additional training for integrators. Applications that can't make use of OPC-UA's requirements can still use the existing OPC specifications.

“By adding OPC-UA support, MatrikonOPC will enable industry to select the best communication infrastructure for their specific business application,” said Randy Kondor, Vice President of Marketing at MatrikonOPC. “MatrikonOPC's approach allows integrators to delay detailed implementation decisions. They can choose a product today, and select the most appropriate OPC communication mechanism onsite.”

About MatrikonOPC

With a collection of more than 500 OPC products and over 100,000 installations worldwide, MatrikonOPC is the world's largest OPC company. MatrikonOPC is a charter member of the OPC Foundation, and has demonstrated a commitment to developing OPC as the industrial connectivity standard.

MatrikonOPC's international customer base includes a wide range of companies from process to discrete manufacturers in industrial, commercial and military applications. With offices throughout North America, Australia, Europe and the Middle East, MatrikonOPC's reach is global. Visit MatrikonOPC at www.MatrikonOPC.com.

For more information, contact:

Gord Freiter
Marketing Communications
780-448-1010 extension 4928
email: gord.freiter@matrikon.com