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Note to editors: Link to high-res photo and picture caption follow news release text.

The Beckhoff MX-System Addresses Skilled Labor Shortages for Manufacturers

Automation hardware platform with pluggable components extends cost and labor savings across organizations

SAVAGE, Minnesota, May 13, 2025 – As a replacement for conventional control cabinets, the MX-System from Beckhoff offers some major efficiency advantages for automation engineers. However, the benefits don't stop there. The cabinet-free automation solution also provides great potential to address the protracted shortage of skilled workers in manufacturing and other high-tech industries. Better future-proofing in these areas benefits not only machine and system engineering companies but also end users.

The MX-System is a uniform modular automation system that can be used to completely replace traditional control cabinets with pluggable function modules in many industrial applications. This IP67-rated system is waterproof and dustproof and can be mounted directly on machines. This is achieved via a robust aluminum baseplate with integrated module slots and EtherCAT for communication and integrated distribution for different voltages. Its extensive portfolio of function modules includes the mains connection, drives, power supplies, industrial PCs, and I/O modules. Boasting all of these features and more, the MX system easily covers the full range of functions currently handled by conventional control cabinets.

A wide range of function modules can be easily plugged into the baseplate and screwed into place with a simple hand tool. This eliminates the need for

any mechanical assembly of the control cabinet and its mounting plate, not to mention time-consuming manual field wiring.

All of this is directly reflected in the time required to set up the MX-System: including the necessary tests and checks, an MX-System can be set up in just one hour, in contrast to at least 24 hours for a comparable control cabinet. This is how the MX-System directly counters the shortage of skilled workers, as individual employees are less tied to laborious installation tasks and can move on to the next project in no time. A further advantage is the straightforward plug-in of the function modules, which means they do not need to be connected by specialized electricians – a real bonus for companies lacking the necessary expertise in this area.

MX-System

Link to high-res photo:

www.beckhoff.com/media/downloads/press/2025/pr052025_beckhoff_us.zip

Press picture:



Picture caption:

The latest window profile processing machine from Schirmer Maschinen GmbH demonstrates the many impressive benefits of the MX-System. (© Beckhoff, 2025)

At Beckhoff, automation is our calling. We empower engineers to differentiate and succeed as industry leaders – to harness new technologies, embrace open standards, and solve the world’s most complex problems. Founded and led by engineers, we organically create advanced controls, communication, IoT, and motion technologies that become unique tools for your one-of-a-kind challenges in an age of digital transformation. As a global partner with U.S. headquarters in Minneapolis, we remain committed to sustainability, inclusivity, and support for the people behind the automation. So whether you’re powering the EV revolution, dazzling on Broadway, launching satellites, or harnessing the wind – you can reach new heights for your business, industry, and humankind.

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Please send questions regarding “Beckhoff MX-System” to:

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