

BENCHMARK REPORT



The M&M-Business segment for sophisticated Software development in the Factory automation. Manufacturers of automation systems, mechanical engineers and production companies gain a distinct competitive edge with the Software applications from M&M. Innovative solutions in the sectors Engineering, HMI, Production and Testing set new trends. Segment-specific products and application-oriented technology consulting complement the performance spectrum.

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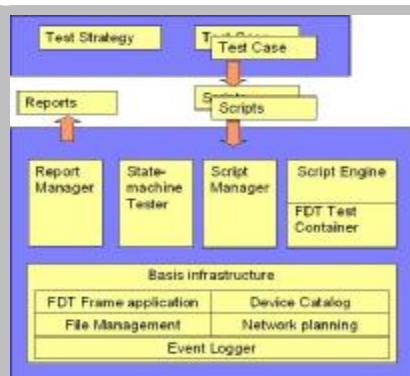
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dtmINSPECTOR for the Quality assurance in the DTM-development



Reputed companies in the Process- and Factory automation use the official Testtool dtmINSPECTOR of the FDT Group for the quality assurance in the DTM-development and in preparation for the DTM-certification. The dtmINSPECTOR is used for example by VEGA Grieshaber KG, Endress+Hauser, Omron, Invensys/ Foxboro Eckhardt GmbH, Moeller GmbH and Krohne.

The situation

The FDT (Field Device Tool)-technology has created a simple way of integrating intelligent field devices, drives and controls from different manufacturers in automation systems. To counter possible integration problems when using these devices, the FDT Group offers a Test- and Certification service based on the Tool *dtmINSPECTOR*. The *dtmINSPECTOR* checks the conformity of every type of DTM (Communication-, Device-, Gateway-DTMs etc.) with the FDT-Specification. The DTM-certification issued by the FDT JIG certifies this for each tested DTM. The Testtool was jointly developed by the companies ABB, Endress+Hauser,

Metso, as well as Siemens and the M&M Software GmbH.

Solution

Besides testing the DTMs for their FDT-conformity, the Tool has more useful functions, which can be used for the development of DTMs and which help the work of the Quality assurance.

It is, for example, advisable to use the *dtmINSPECTOR* already in the development phase, meaning the DTM can be tested during its creation and possible problems can already be identified during the development process. This saves time and also the often costly rework after the design is completed and implemented. The tests are recorded in detail through comprehensive logging- and reporting functions, which assist the DTM-developer very efficiently for the assurance of the FDT-conformity. It is also ensured that the tests are reproducible at any time.

Conclusion

All parties concerned benefit from the certification of DTMs: The user, who gets the Seal of Quality for DTMs, will find the selection of devices and the belonging Software components much easier. The assurance of buying a DTM that will work without problem in any FDT-conform Frame application is an added advantage. The DTM-manufacturers gain a front-end cost-effective improvement of the product quality. The certificate formally documents this also to the customers.

The worldwide distribution and support of the *dtmINSPECTOR* has been given to the M&M Software

GmbH – mainly because M&M have a broad FDT- and Technology know-how. This is also proven by the wide range of FDT/DTM-solutions offered by M&M: The advertised FDT-Service comprises personalized training and workshops, consulting and development, and the handling of complete projects. M&M is also accredited as one of the world's first DTM-Test labs. Device manufacturers can send their developed DTMs to M&M for functional testing and for checking the conformity with the FDT-Specification.

"Companies in Process- and Automation Technology use the official dtmINSPECTOR for quality assurance in the DTM-development and in preparation for the DTM-certification."

Volker Herbst
M&M Software

