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Dearborn Group demonstrating Vehicle Network Technology at 2001 NI Week

DETROIT, MI – July 31, 2000 – National Instruments (NI) Alliance partners Dearborn Group Inc. (DG) and VI Engineering (VIE) have paired DG's GRYPHON™ interface with VIE's LabVIEW® GRYPHON Toolkit technology for a demonstration at NI Week August 16-18, at the Austin Convention Center in Austin, Texas. The two companies have worked in conjunction with NI to create new technology for communication with in-vehicle networks. The system they will demonstrate at NI Week 2000 is an instrument cluster test fixture featuring the GRYPHON™ interface communicating with an application developed using the LabVIEW® GRYPHON™ Toolkit and implemented using an NI PXI chassis and LabVIEW® interface.

The Demonstration

The system being demonstrated verifies that a connected instrument cluster is properly calibrated. In the demonstration, a LabVIEW® application built using the GRYPHON™ Toolkit transmits data to the cluster via the GRYPHON™ device and also records the instrument cluster output via a digital camera connected to an NI IMAQ board. The application provides a display of the vehicle network data transmitted as well as a digital representation of corresponding movements recorded by the camera.

The GRYPHON™

DG's GRYPHON™ is a hardware interface that provides remote connectivity for multiplexed automation and automotive communication networks. It provides a high-speed Ethernet connection to a host PC, for applications like testing, network monitoring, diagnostics, troubleshooting, and custom applications. Its

embedded Linux operating system and standard TCP/IP services ensure interconnectivity with a large number of existing PCs, workstations, and network hardware systems. Users can write their own GRYPHON™ applications using the GRYPHON™ client communication protocol specification or VIE's LabVIEW® GRYPHON™ Toolkit (described below). The GRYPHON™ currently supports the following modules: opto-isolated CAN (82527), single-wire CAN, GM J1850 (DLC), Ford J1850 (HBCC), KWP2000 / GM1850 (BDLC), Ford UBP, Honda, Fiber-Optic Satellite Module.

The GRYPHON™ Toolkit

VIE's LabVIEW® GRYPHON™ Toolkit is a set of LabVIEW® VIs that allows the user to create custom applications for DG's GRYPHON™ vehicle network interface. The Toolkit features a pallet of VIs and several high-level functions to enable easy development of applications for testing and for performing message transmission, reception, filtering, scheduling, and other network functions. Custom applications created using the Toolkit can easily be implemented in LabVIEW® to perform these complex bus monitoring functions on the variety of networks supported by DG's GRYPHON™ tool (described above). V I Engineering will also build custom LabVIEW applications based on the Toolkit.

About Dearborn Group

Dearborn Group (DG) is a leading supplier of products in technology for in-vehicle and controller-area (CAN) networks; providing hardware and software products, test equipment, consulting services, and various training seminars. DG's products and services support automotive networks (J1850, J1939, J1708, J1587, CCD, ISO-9141, Keyword Protocol 2000, and others) and automation networks (DeviceNet, Smart Distributed System, CANopen, etc.). Dearborn Group employees actively chair or serve on all major SAE and ISO committees addressing multiplexing development. DG's headquarters are located in Farmington Hills, Michigan; its Heavy-Duty Truck and Bus Division is based in Indianapolis, Indiana. Customers in Europe are served by Dearborn Electronics (UK), Ltd., DG's affiliate in Wolverhampton, England.

Product pricing, information

DG's GRYPHON™ interface is available with various modules and software packages, with pricing starting at \$1,695. The LabVIEW® GRYPHON™ Toolkit may be purchased for \$495 through VI Engineering (tel.: 1-800-884-8950, Web: www.vieng.com). For more information about Dearborn Group's GRYPHON™ and other DG products and services, please call Dearborn Group (248.488.2080), visit our Web site (<http://www.dgtech.com>), or contact us via E-mail (dg@dgtech.com) or FAX (248.488.2082).