Clearing the Path for the Industrial Internet of Things

One of the most significant roadblocks to standards adoption and the Industrial Internet of Things is the gap between information and operational technologies. OMAC's Operational Technology (OT) Advisory Forum is helping to close that gap by bringing together automation end users to collaborate on standards and best practices.

To reach the full potential of the Industrial Internet of Things from the production floor through operations, manufacturers need to resolve numerous challenges and meet multiple requirements. Manufacturers have the opportunity to drive the discussion and solutions by working together in industry standards organizations such as OMAC.

“When manufacturers work together to create standards and share best practices whole industries benefit—greater efficiency, improved performance, increased profitability.”
—Dr. Bryan Griffen, OMAC Chairman

Some of the pressing issues and questions OMAC and other standard organizations are working to address include:

- What OT standards are required to meet IT security concerns?
- How can manufacturers achieve interoperability and connectivity that takes advantage of today’s analytics?
- How can manufacturers prevent proprietary industrial technologies from holding back effective Industrial Internet deployment?
- How can manufacturers convince suppliers to adopt standards without incurring unnecessary cost and delay?

Operational Technology Advisory Forum
Members of OMAC’s OT Advisory Forum are part of the organization’s collective voice of end users, integrators, OEMs, technology providers and corporate members that champion standards in manufacturing automation.

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The OT Advisory Forum is open to qualified automation end users at no cost and allows them to collaborate with other manufacturers and participate in many OMAC sponsored activities, such as workshops, best practice sharing, OMAC document reviews, communication, and annual meetings at the member rate. Members of the OT Advisory Forum will also be recognized on OMAC’s website and other promotional activities.

Members of the OT Advisory Forum can transition to full corporate members to access additional benefits, such as voting privileges, updates of ISA TR88.00.02, initiative proposals, technology demonstrations, workgroup and Technical Advisory Board activities and leadership opportunities.

What OMAC Does

For more than two decades, OMAC member companies have championed standards in manufacturing automation. For example, OMAC is responsible for the ISA TR88.00.02 (PackML) standard that is driving production and ROI improvements for end users and OEMs worldwide.

Additionally, OMAC has contributed substantially to the MTConnect, STEP NC and OPC UA standards. OMAC continues to advance automation standards with universal templates for machinery User Requirements Specifications, HMI dashboards and others.

OMAC Goals:
- set standards to improve machine2machine communications
- create tools for enhanced performance and easier integration
- develop guidelines for consistent performance
- share best practices to increase productivity and quality
- simplify technology adoption
- help speed time to market

OMAC’s Packaging Workgroup develops guidelines that simplify packaging line customization and integration. Members and Advisors collaborate to create standards that improve machine to machine integration and packaging line to business system performance.

ISA TR88.00.02, also known as OMAC PackML, is integral to Packaging Workgroup initiatives. TR88/PackML defines a common state model, modes and tag naming conventions for automation. TR88/PackML has been implemented on control platforms worldwide to increase reliability, reduce costs, ease integration and shorten project timelines.

Packaging Workgroup

OMAC’s Manufacturing Workgroup develops best practices and creates standards that improve manufacturing performance and maximize the value of parts, machinery and automation systems.

Members and Advisors integrate best practices and OMAC-endorsed open architecture specifications into their products and systems to increase interoperability, flexibility and performance.

OMW Members and Advisors are collaborating on STEP-NC (ISO 10303-238) standards and resources to improve portability and flexibility of machining data from CAD / CAM systems to individual machine tools.

Manufacturing Workgroup

Join OMAC’s Operational Technology Advisory Forum

There is no cost to join OMAC’s OT Advisory Forum. Details available on www.omac.org.