

## **e-F@ctory Wins Technological Leadership Award for Implementing IIoT in Factory Automation**

**Ratingen, Germany 27.10.2015**

**Mitsubishi Electric's e-F@ctory concept has just been honored by Frost & Sullivan as part of their annual Best Practice Awards. The award recognizes Mitsubishi Electric's e-F@ctory as providing enabling technology in the field of the "Industrial Internet of Things in Factory Automation".**

At the recent award ceremony in Singapore, Mitsubishi Electric's e-F@ctory concept was the recipient of the 2015 Frost & Sullivan Southeast Asia Enabling Technology Award. The award forms part of Frost & Sullivan's respected program for recognizing best practices in a variety of different industries and application fields.

The foundation for making the award is extensive primary and secondary research through the total value chain giving a unique 360-degree view of specific technologies and products. According to David Frigstad, Chairman of Frost & Sullivan, "To achieve enabling technology leadership is never an easy task, but it is one made even more difficult due to today's competitive intensity, customer volatility, and economic uncertainty - not to mention the difficulty of innovating in an environment of escalating challenges to intellectual property."

Based on this background Frost & Sullivan selected Mitsubishi Electric's

e-F@ctory platform through its ability to completely integrate factory automation equipment using common protocols and networks.

In recent years manufacturing is said to be entering its fourth industrial revolution combining the advances in IT technology, 3D printing, simulation and modeling with advanced automation of factory floor operations. The effect has been great discussion around IIoT, Industry 4.0 as well as spawning regional manufacturing leadership concepts such as "Made in China 2025". But the question remains how to actually achieve these laudable goals, which is where the e-F@ctory platform comes in.

At its heart are the core factory automation components such as Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs), Human Machine Interfaces (HMIs), Robots, drives etc these are combined with related hardware components to connect those control systems with IT systems making it ideal for Manufacturing Execution Systems (MES) and enterprise applications. "Mitsubishi Electric, renowned for its offerings in the electronics industry, has carved a niche for itself in the factory automation space, thanks to its global reach and vast experience. With Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) gathering the attention of major automation system suppliers, Mitsubishi Electric has realized the potential such a technology will offer in the factory automation space. The company also recognizes that as IIoT becomes more relevant to manufacturing, transparency will become paramount. Its e-F@ctory is seen as the perfect solution to enable company-wide visibility" states Krishnan Ramanathan, Senior Research Analyst at Frost & Sullivan.

The e-F@ctory platform goes further to make this reality. With its ecosystem of over 3000 direct and in-direct partners it can ease the way to integrating a gamut of sensors, machines, IT technology in to a single vibrant manufacturing entity. Examples are not limited to a specific industry or region as e-F@ctory, as recognized by Frost & Sullivan, is a scalable enabling technology with a wide application base. There are already multiple model factory installations established as well as several 100's of customer installations; for example, through working with Intel and collaborating with other e-F@ctory Alliance members a pilot application in Malaysia was realized. The result is saving many millions of dollars through waste reduction and efficiency gains in Intel's back end manufacturing plants.

**Image caption:**



**Picture 1:** Mitsubishi Electric's Mr Masayuki Yamamoto (right), Group Senior Vice President Factory Automation Systems, receives the 2015 Best Practice Award from Mr Ravi K (Left), Vice President, Frost & Sullivan.

[Source: Mitsubishi Electric Corporation]



**Picture 2:** Mitsubishi Electric's e-F@ctory platform is recognized as providing enabling technology in the field of the “Industrial Internet Of Things In Factory Automation”.

[Source: Frost & Sullivan]



**Picture 3:** Mitsubishi Electric's e-F@ctory is already enabling users to achieve their IIoT and Industry 4.0 aspirations.

[Source: Mitsubishi Electric Corporation]

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**Note to Editor:** if you would like the text in another language please contact Philip Howe at DMA Europa – [philip@dmaeuropa.com](mailto:philip@dmaeuropa.com).

## **About Frost & Sullivan**

Frost & Sullivan, the Growth Partnership Company, works in collaboration with clients to leverage visionary innovation that addresses the global challenges and related growth opportunities that will make or break today's market participants.

For more than 50 years, we have been developing growth strategies for the global 1000, emerging businesses, the public sector and the investment community. Is your organization prepared for the next profound wave of industry convergence, disruptive technologies, increasing competitive intensity, Mega Trends, breakthrough best practices, changing customer dynamics and emerging economies?

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## **About Mitsubishi Electric**

With over 90 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products to both corporate clients and general consumers all over the world, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, as well as in products for the energy sector, water and waste water, transportation and building equipment.

With around 129.000 employees the company recorded consolidated group sales of 36,0 billion US Dollar\* in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2015.

Our sales offices, research & development centres and manufacturing plants are located in over 30 countries.

Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V., Factory Automation European Business Group (FA-EBG) has its European headquarters in Ratingen near Dusseldorf, Germany. It is a part of Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V., a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Japan.

The role of FA-EBG is to manage sales, service and support across its network of local branches and distributors throughout the EMEA region.

*\*Exchange rate 120 Yen = 1 US Dollar, Stand 31.3.2015(Source: Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market)*

**About e-F@ctory**

e-F@ctory is Mitsubishi Electric's integrated concept to build reliable and flexible manufacturing systems that enable users to achieve many of their high speed, information driven manufacturing aspirations. Through its partner solution activity, the e-F@ctory Alliance, and its work with open network associations such as The CC-Link Partners Association (CLPA), users can build comprehensive solutions based on a wide ranging "best in class" principle.

In summary, e-F@ctory and the e-F@ctory Alliance enable customers to achieve integrated manufacturing but still retain the ability to choose the most optimal suppliers and solutions.

**Further Information:**

Website: [eu3a.mitsubishielectric.com/fa](http://eu3a.mitsubishielectric.com/fa)

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/MitsubishiFAEU>

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