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Opto 22's *groov* EPIC System Adds IEC 61131-3 Programming Options

A free software upgrade adds standard IEC 61131-3 programming methods, increasing options available to controls engineers for ease of use and versatility

Temecula, CA - February 4, 2019 – Opto 22 announces the addition of international standard IEC 61131-3 programming options in its *groov* EPIC® edge programmable industrial controller. Adding these new programming options to the existing flowchart and custom user-written options in *groov* EPIC gives control engineers the ability to program using a variety of languages they already know, while taking advantage of the EPIC's extended capabilities for automation and industrial internet of things (IIoT) applications. All IEC 61131-3 standard languages are supported by *groov* EPIC, including Function Block Diagram (FBD), Structured Text (ST), Sequential Function Charts (SFC), and Ladder Diagram (LD).

Adding the IEC 61131-3 option gives engineers several key advantages. First, they can pick the best software tool for their specific application. Second, they can mix and match several software tools to build control and IIoT solutions on one unified platform. And last, companies can continue to leverage existing employee knowledge in IEC 61131-3 programming methods, including decades-old ladder logic.

The PC-based CODESYS® Development System V3 is used to create and compile IEC 61131-3 programs for download to a pre-installed CODESYS Runtime running on *groov* EPIC. The CODESYS Development System is available at no charge from the CODESYS Store at <https://store.codesys.com>. The CODESYS Runtime on *groov* EPIC is enabled by a free software license available from Opto 22.

“As the world’s leading manufacturer of independent IEC 61131-3 software,” stated Markus Bachmann, President of the U.S. subsidiary of the CODESYS Group, “we are excited that CODESYS

has been chosen to boost Opto 22's *groov* EPIC to the next level in industrial automation products, integrating state-of-the-art industrial control with new IIoT and Industry 4.0 applications."

In addition to IEC 61131-3, *groov* EPIC can also be programmed using Opto 22's native PAC Control™. Field-proven, flowchart-based PAC Control with optional scripting offers 400+ plain English commands for analog process and digital sequential control, complex math, conditional branching, string handling, and other complex functions.

Other programming options include using software languages supported on the Linux® operating system through secure shell. This access—along with toolchains and interpreters for Java, C/C++, Python, JavaScript/Node.js and more—allows developers to create custom applications. In addition, *groov* EPIC includes Node-RED as another programming option. Node-RED uses a flow-based development environment optimized for edge data processing and communications.

Integrated HMI

Unique in the industry, *groov* EPIC integrates the easy-to-use HMI software *groov* View® with its control programs. Once an IEC-61131-3, PAC Control, or custom software application is developed, the control program's tags and I/O are available for building a *groov* View HMI. Data from other systems and equipment on premises, at remote locations, and in the cloud can also be included in the HMI. The drag-drop-tag HMI construction is quick, security is built in, and trending and user notifications are included.

Authorized users can view this HMI to see data and control processes on the integral, industrial-grade color touchscreen display on the front of the EPIC processor. They can also view the HMI on an external HDMI monitor, and from any web browser or mobile device.

Free Product Upgrade

To take advantage of this new programming option, current *groov* EPIC owners can simply install a free upgrade. As with all quarterly upgrades to *groov* EPIC since its introduction in February 2018, this upgrade requires only a software download. Unlike all other industrial automation products and platforms, *groov* EPIC is improved quarterly based on user feedback, with no need to replace existing hardware. These software upgrades provide significant performance improvements and

protect user hardware investments, all at little or no cost. The *groov* EPIC system can change with you as your application grows or changes.

***groov* EPIC System**

Based on Opto 22's 45 years of experience as an automation manufacturer, the *groov* EPIC system merges tough industrial hardware with open protocols and standards to provide an ideal system for both automation and IIoT applications. Built to withstand conditions at the edge of networks in factories and remote locations, EPIC is approved for use by UL in hazardous locations and is ATEX compliant. EPIC can be used to collect, process, view and exchange data where it is produced, and this data can then be securely shared among databases, cloud services, PLC systems and other components. In recognition of its unique capabilities, *groov* EPIC won the 2018 *Control Engineering* Engineers' Choice Award in the Industrial Internet of Things Connectivity category.

Software tools included with the system—including *groov* View, Ignition Edge® by Inductive Automation®, Node-RED, and MQTT/Sparkplug—allow users to efficiently move and visualize data where it's needed. I/O modules are designed for easy field wiring, with most guaranteed for life. Product support, as with all Opto 22 products, is provided free of charge.

For more information on *groov* EPIC, visit: <https://www.opto22.com/products/groov-epic-system>

About Opto 22

Opto 22 designs and manufactures industrial control products and Internet of Things platforms that bridge the gap between information technology (IT) and operations technology (OT). Based on a core design philosophy of leveraging open, standards-based technology, Opto 22 products are deployed worldwide in industrial automation, process control, building automation, industrial refrigeration, remote monitoring, and data acquisition applications. Designed and manufactured in the U.S.A., Opto 22 products have a worldwide reputation for ease-of-use, innovation, quality, and reliability. For over 40 years OEMs, machine builders, automation end-users, and information technology and operations personnel have and continue to trust Opto 22 to deliver high-quality products with superior reliability. The company was founded in 1974 and is privately held in Temecula, California, U.S.A. Opto 22 products are available through a global network of distributors and system integrators. For more information, contact Opto 22 headquarters at +1-951-695-3000 or visit www.opto22.com. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#).

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