email: sales@impulseautomation.co.uk
web: www.impulseautomation.co.uk

Basics of Absolute Encoders ACURO

CANopen

GENERAL INFORMATION

The AC 58 is an absolute shaft encoder (encoder, angle encoder). The version described in this technical manual sends its current position to another station via the "CAN-bus" transmission medium (physically: screened and twisted two-wire line).

The serial bus system CAN (Controller Area Network), which had been originally developed by Bosch/ Intel for automotive uses, is gaining ground in industrial automation technology. The system is multimaster-compatible, i.e. several CAN- stations are able to request the bus at the same time. The message with the highest priority (determined by the identifier) will be received immediately.

The data transfer is regulated by the message's priority. Within the CAN system, there are no transport addresses, but message identifiers. The message which is being sent can be received by all stations at the same time (broadcast).

By means of a special filter methods, the station only accepts the relevant messages. The identifier transmitted with the message is the basis for the decision as to whether the message will be accepted or not.

The bus coupler is standardised according to the international standard ISO-DIS 11898 (CAN High Speed) standard and allows data to be transferred at a maximum rate of 1 MBit/ s. The most significant feature of the CAN-protocol is its high level of transmission reliability (Hamming distance = 6).

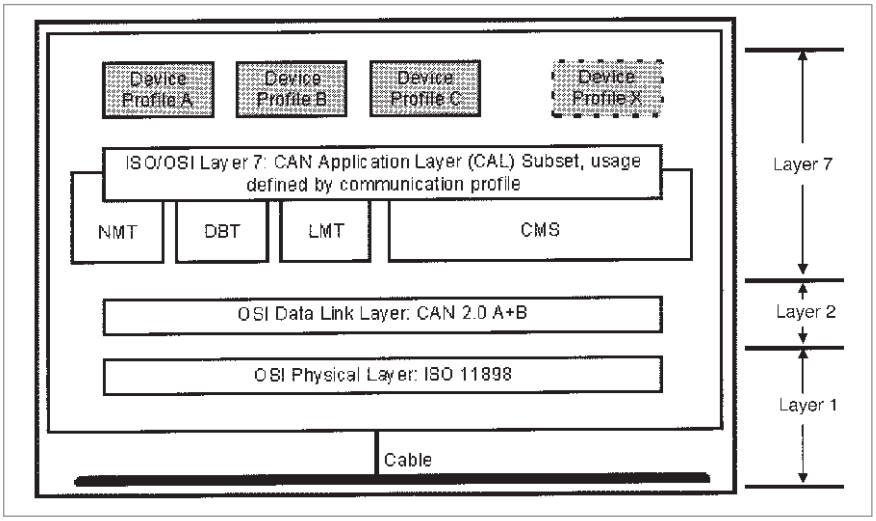
The CAN-Controller Intel 82527 used in the encoder is **basic** as well as **full-CAN** compatible and supports the **CAN-specification 2.0 part B (standard protocol with 11-bit- identifier** as well as **extended protocol with 29-bit identifier**). Up to now, only 11-bit identifiers have been used for CANopen.

FIELD OF APPLICATION

In systems, where the position of a drive or of any other part of a machine has to be recorded and signalled to the control system, the AC 58 can assume this function. The AC 58 can resolve, for instance, positioning tasks by sending the check-back signal concerning the present drive position via the CAN bus to the positioning unit.

CANopen

CANOPEN COMMUNICATION MODEL AND PROFILE



Layer 1 (Physical Layer): ISO-DIS 11898 (CAN High Speed)

Layer 2 (Data Link Layer): ISO-DIS 11898 (CAN High Speed)

Layer 7 (Application Layer): CiA DS 301 (CANopen CAL-based Communication Profile)
+ Device profile CiA DS 4xx (CANopen Device Profile for xx)

For the following devices, profiles already exist::
- CiA Draft Standard Proposal 401 for Input/Output Modules
- CiA Draft Standard Proposal 402 for Drives and Motion Control
- CiA Work Item 403 for Human-Machine Interfaces
- CiA Work Draft 404 for Closed-Loop Controllers and Transformers
- CiA Work Item 405 for IEC-1131 Interfaces
- **CiA Draft Standard Proposal 406 for Encoders**
- CiA Work Item 407 for Public Transport
- CiA Work Item 408 for Fork-Lifts

CANopen

THE CANOPEN PROFILE

About two and a half years after the CiA, the association of the user and manufacturer of CAN products, had adopted the CAN Application Layer (CAL), CANopen and the respective device profiles paved the way for the development of open systems.
CANopen has been developed under the technical direction of the Steinbeis Transfer Centre for Automation (STA Reutlingen; Germany) on the basis of the layer 7 CAL specification.
Compared with CAL, CANopen only provides the functions needed for this special purpose. CANopen is thus a part of CAL which has been optimised for application purposes and allows for a simpler system structure as well as for simpler devices.
CANopen has been optimised for a quick transfer of data in real-time systems and has been standardised for different device profiles.
The CAN in Automation (CiA) association of users and manufacturers is responsible for the establishing and the standardisation of the respective profiles.

The RA58 with CANopen meets the requirements laid down in the communication profile (CiA DS 301) and in the device profile for encoders.

CANopen allows for:
- auto configuration of the network,
- comfortable access to all device parameters.
- synchronisation of the devices,
- cyclical and event-controlled process data processing,
- simultaneous data input and output.

CANopen uses four communication objects (COB) with different features:
- Process Data Objects (PDO) for real-time data
- Service Data Objects (SDO) for the transfer of parameters and programs
- Network Management (NMT, Life-Guarding)
- predefined objects (for synchronisation, time stamp, emergency message)

All device parameters are stored in an object directory. The object directory contains the description, data type and structure of the parameters as well as their addresses (index).
The directory consists of three parts: communication profile parameters, device profile parameters and manufacturer specific parameters.

THE ENCODER DEVICE PROFILE (CIA DSP 406)

This profile describes a binding, but manufacturer-independent definition of the interface for encoders. The profile not only defines which CANopen functions are to be used, but also how they are to be used. This standard permits an open and manufacturer-independent bus system.

The device profile consists of two object categories
- the standard category C1 describes all the basic functions the shaft encoder must contain
- the extended category C2 contains a variety of additional functions which either have to be supported by category C2 shaft encoders (mandatory) or which are optional. Category C2 devices thus contain all C1 and C2 mandatory functions as well as, depending on the manufacturer, further optional functions.

Furthermore, an addressable area is defined in the profile, to which, depending on the manufacturer, different functions can be assigned.

CANopen

DATA TRANSFER

In CANopen, the data is transferred by means of two different communication types (COB = Communication Object) with different features:

- **Process Data Objects (PDO)**
- **Service Data Objects (SDO)**

The priority of the message objects is determined by the COB identifier.

The **process data objects (PDO)** serve the highly dynamic exchange of real-time data (e.g. position of the shaft encoder) with a maximum length of 8 Byte. This data is transferred with high priority (low COB identifier). PDOs are broadcast messages and put their information simultaneously at the disposal of all desired receivers.

The **service data objects (SDO)** form the communication channel for the transfer of device parameters (e.g. programming of the shaft encoders' resolution). Since these parameters are transferred acyclically (e.g. only once when running up the network), the SDO objects have a low priority (high COB identifier).

COB IDENTIFIER

For an easier administration of the identifiers, CANopen uses the "Predefined master/Slave Connection Set"). In this case, all identifiers with standard values are defined in the object directory. However, these identifiers can be modified according to the customers' needs via SDO access.

The 11-bit identifier consists of a 4 Bit function code and a 7 Bit node number.

Bit-No.	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
Type	Function code				Node number						
Assignment [1]	x	x	x	x	0	0	x	x	x	x	x

[1] x = binary value can be selected freely 0 or 1); 0 = 0 value is fixed

The higher the value of the COB identifier, the lower the identifier's priority!

NODE NUMBER

The 7-bit node number is set by means of the hardware via the 5 DIP switches on the encoder's back.