

**Flexibility with Motion Control
at a glance**

Overview • October 2003



simotion



Motion Control System

SIEMENS

Purpose

Paradigm Shift in the Mechanical Equipment Manufacturing Industry

Many sectors of the mechanical equipment manufacturing industry produce machines that have one principal item in common. Specifically, these machines rely on motion control tasks, involving increasingly complex motion and greater speed and precision. In the past, motion control tasks were carried out using mechanical components and a variety of electronic components (such as output cam controllers and positioning or multi-axis modules).

As a result, a relatively minor functional change or an additional requirement often meant switching to other components, entailing new construction, configuration, parameter assignment and programming, training, and further increases in replacement parts inventory.

The only alternative to the use of many individual components is a powerful automation system that provides an integrated solution for all different types of motion control tasks, specifically:

The SIMOTION motion control system:

- ONE system for ALL motion control tasks
- For machinery with many moving parts

SIMOTION provides optimum solutions for current motion control system requirements on machines.

Conditions in the Mechanical Equipment Manufacturing Industry

In general, machinery produced by this industry requires:

- High output (high clock-pulse rate and availability)
- Uniform, high-quality products
- Low price

Today, many manufacturers often face additional demands for:

- Machinery with greater flexibility that can be more easily adapted to new products
- Shorter delivery times, enabling new products to reach the market faster
- Simple integration of machinery in existing plants

To satisfy all of these market demands – some of which are recent – new machine designs must be developed and continually updated. Many of the machine-specific concepts reveal some vital trends.



Trends in Mechanical Equipment Manufacturing

Mechatronics – the Revolution in Mechanical Equipment Manufacturing

Traditionally in the mechanical equipment manufacturing industry, specific machine functions have been implemented by combining and modifying mechanical components in complex ways.

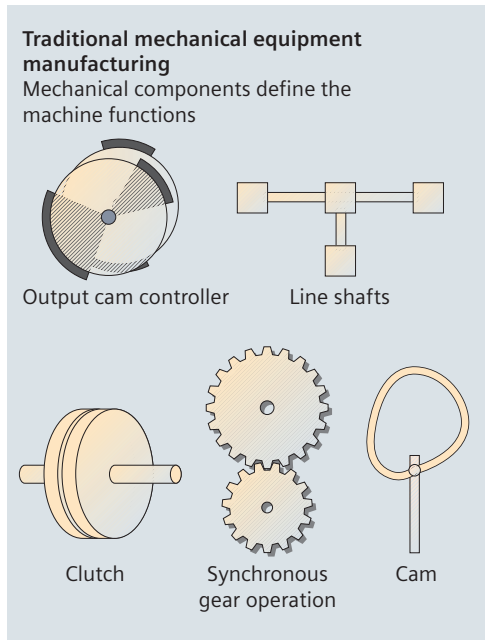
In mechatronic solutions, functionality is based on simple parameter assignment and programming in the motion control software. The conversion to machine functions is then handled by servo drives and standardized mechanical components.

Advantages of a Mechatronic Solution

- Greater flexibility in machine design
- Significant increase in the clock-pulse rate through optimization of axis motions
- Reduced setup time – allows change over to a different product at the touch of a button without changing any mechanical components
- Reduced number of parts subject to wear and reduced maintenance costs

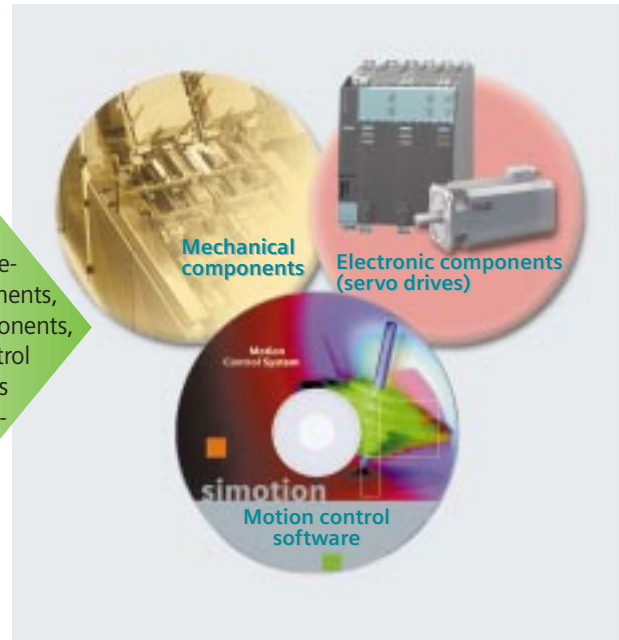
Mechatronic machine concepts thus make it possible to fulfill the following demands:

- High output rate
- Uniform product quality
- Flexible machinery
- Short delivery times and lower cost due to fast production



Mechatronic Solution:

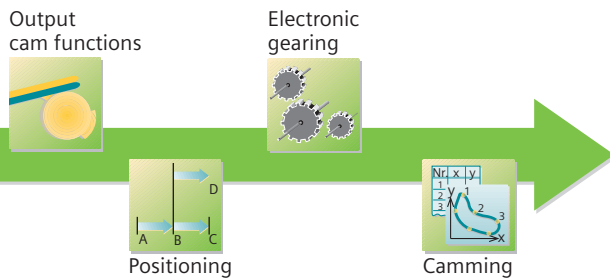
Interaction of mechanical components, electronic components, and motion control software enables flexible functioning of machinery



Trends in Mechanical Equipment Manufacturing

Motion Control takes Center Stage

To realize the many advantages of mechatronic-based machine designs, powerful motion control software is needed. Ultimately, it is the software that makes it possible to optimize motion, adapt motions to new products or machine versions, and implement new types of motion. Motion control thus takes center stage in implementing new machine designs.



Emergence of Modular Machine Designs

With modular machine designs, it is possible to:

- Create many different machine versions using only a few modules
- More easily adapt individual modules to meet individual customer requirements or design customized modules
- Commission machines faster

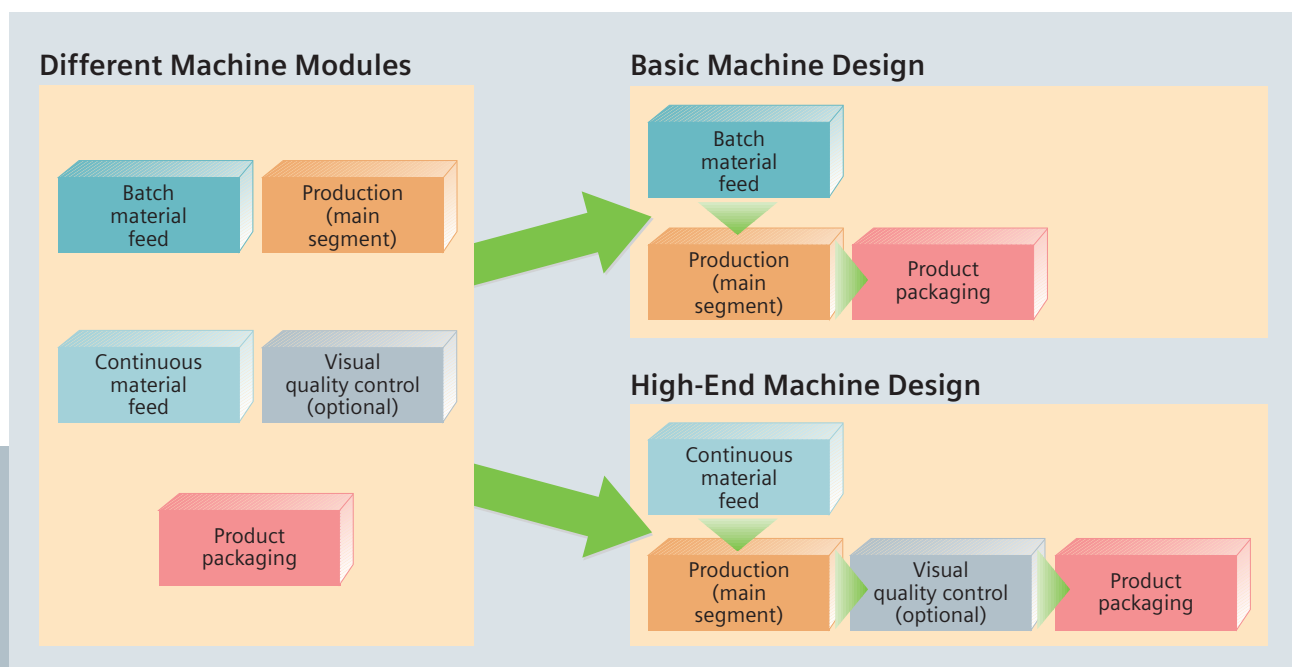
When implementing these modular designs, it is essential to note that the individual machine modules can be easily combined. This can be achieved, for example, with distributed intelligence; that is, each machine module contributes its full functionality, including servo drives and motion control functions.

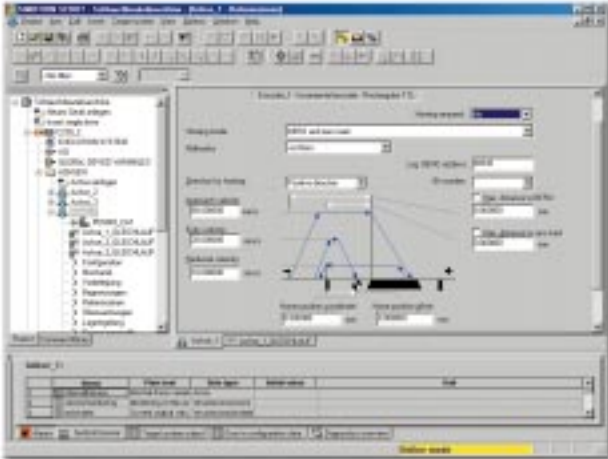
Consequently, motion control software must:

- Cover the functionality of all modules
- Support stand-alone modules (including testing and commissioning)
- Provide simple interfaces between the individual modules

Modular equipment designs thus mean:

- Machinery with greater flexibility
- Faster production and commissioning and thus shorter delivery times
- Lower machine costs





Highest Degree of User-Friendliness is Required

Using a combination of electronic components and motion control software, mechatronic solutions are introducing new, complex engineering tasks to the mechanical equipment manufacturing industry, including:

- Design and commissioning of servo drives
- Formulation and optimization of a wide variety of motion control functions

To prevent this new level of complexity from outweighing the advantages of mechatronics, manufacturers demand systems with maximum user-friendliness through features such as:

- Intuitive operator interface
- Intelligent user prompts (wizards)
- Extensive graphics-based task formulation
- Trace and diagnostic options, consistency checks, and self-optimization
- Suitable documentation options

Only those systems with maximum user-friendliness can optimize the motion sequences in the machine and at the same time minimize engineering costs (and thus delivery time and machine costs).

Consistent Use of Industry Standards

In recent years, industrial automation has produced a number of standards that are being used throughout the mechanical equipment manufacturing industry. These include:

Operating systems and programming standards, for example:

- MS Windows
- PLCopen
- IEC 61131-3
- OPC

Application of these standards means that programs based on these standards can be reused in new systems, minimizing engineering over the long term and ensuring that programming investments are not lost.

Communication standards, for example:

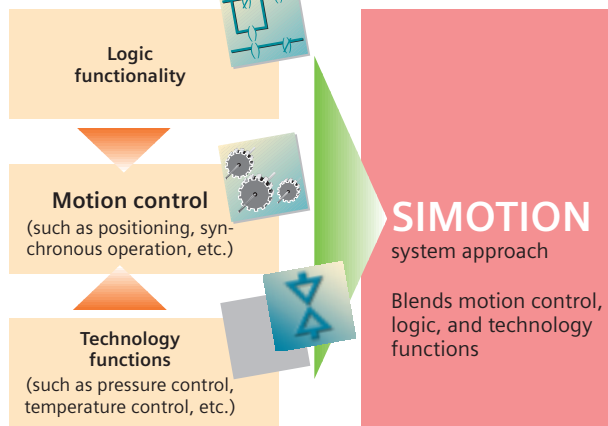
- Industrial Ethernet
- PROFIBUS

Application of these standards makes it easy to integrate a machine into an existing plant.



The SIMOTION System

System Approach



SIMOTION was specially developed for use in machinery in which motion control – that is, the control of complex, high-speed, precise motion – plays a major role.

For this reason, SIMOTION focuses on simple, flexible solutions to a wide variety of motion control tasks. To ensure optimum solutions to these tasks, a new system approach was developed, entailing the blending of motion control with two other groups of control functions found in most machinery – logic functions and technology functions.

This approach enables all motions and all motion-related logic functions, such as logic gating of input signals and analysis and setting of output signals, to be implemented in a single system. The same applies to technology functions, such as pressure control. Motion control functions are used to compute a motion profile for a hydraulic axis, and the motion is then seamlessly carried out by the pressure controller and the hydraulic valves.

The blending of motion control, logic, and technology functions has the following advantages:

- Time-critical interfaces between individual components are unnecessary
- Programming and diagnostic costs for inter-component interfaces are unnecessary
- Programming and diagnostics for the entire machine are not only uniform, but also as simple and transparent as the programming and diagnostics in familiar PLC systems

The SIMOTION system has three components:

Engineering system

The engineering system enables motion control, logic, and technology tasks to be solved in a single integrated system, and also provides all of the necessary tools, ranging from programming and parameter assignment to testing and commissioning to diagnostics.

Runtime software modules

These modules provide the various motion control and technology functions. The relevant modules can be selected, providing the flexibility to customize system functionality to a particular machine.

Hardware platforms

The hardware platforms are the basis of the SIMOTION motion control system. The application that was developed using the engineering system and the associated runtime software modules can be used on different hardware platforms, enabling selection of the most suitable platform for the machine.

System Components

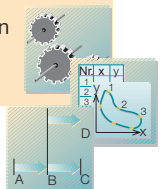
Engineering system

- For programming, parameter assignment
- Graphics or text-based programming



Runtime software modules

- Position
- Synchr. operation
- Cam
- Etc.



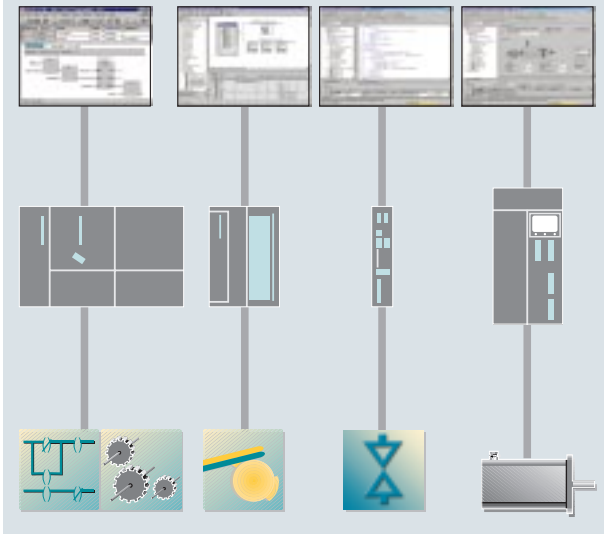
Hardware platforms

- Controller-based
- PC-based
- Drive-based



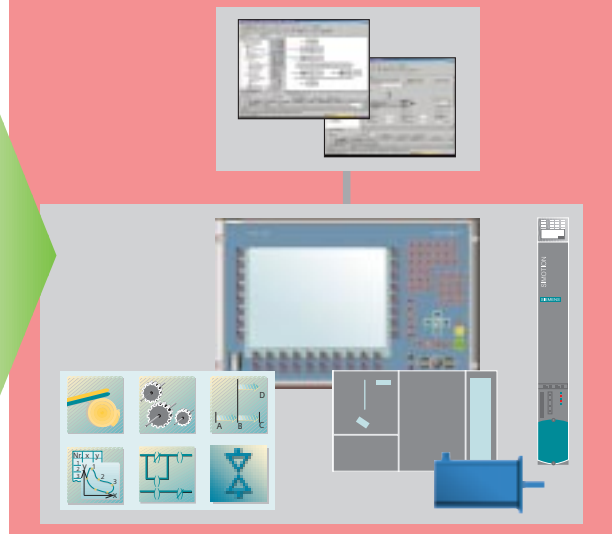
Machine Automation as we know it:

Many stand-alone components with limited functionality and extremely heterogeneous engineering



How is SIMOTION different?

A scalable system with flexible functionality and a universal engineering system



In the past, many stand-alone components were required to solve broad, heterogeneous motion control tasks. Relatively small changes in functionality and additional requirements often meant replacing components or adding new ones. This entailed new construction, more replacement parts, and new configuration and programming with new tools.

With the SIMOTION motion control system, your job is now easier!

Universal engineering system

The engineering requirements for the entire control functionality are addressed in a single, universal engineering system.

Motion control, logic, and additional technology functions can be implemented on one device and in one programming language.

Optimum customization to the machine

The three hardware platforms – controller-based, PC-based, and drive-based platforms – provide a product range that can be used to implement universal automation solutions for very different machines. These platforms can be selected and combined according to your requirements to optimize the system for the machine design, which is especially useful for modular machines.

Flexible functionality

Motion control tasks can now be solved with one single, universal system. Thus, a change of function or an additional requirement entails only a program change: New components, new construction, additional training, and additional replacement parts are now a thing of the past.

The Hardware Platforms

Why does Motion Control need three Platforms?

An automation system is basically characterized by the following features:

- System-specific features, such as the functionality and the engineering
- Hardware-related features, such as the performance, design, and expandability

However, mechanical equipment manufacturing imposes a wide variety of requirements – determined by the machine design.

For this reason, SIMOTION provides more than one hardware version:

- A **compact** version, directly in the drive
- A **modular** version in the design of the SIMATIC S7-300 and
- An **open** version as a pure software solution on an industrial PC.

Thus, each hardware platform has advantages for particular areas of application. Different platforms can also be combined for especially complex requirements.

These different hardware platforms always have the same system properties, however. That is, the functionality and engineering are always identical – regardless of which platform is used.



SIMOTION D – Compact and Integrated into the Drive

SIMOTION D functionality is integrated directly into the control module of the new SINAMICS S120 multiple-axis drive system. The result is an extremely compact overall system comprised of a controller and a drive. The direct integration of motion control and drive functionality makes the system extremely responsive. SIMOTION D is available in several variations, which differ in performance. The first available variant is SIMOTION D435, which covers the middle performance range and even has two isochronous PROFIBUS connections and two Ethernet interfaces onboard.

Typical areas of application

Due to its compact design and integration in the drive, SIMOTION D is particularly well suited for use with:

- Compact machinery
- Distributed automation concepts, such as for machines with many axes
- Modular machines, which can also be used as a supplement to SIMOTION P or SIMOTION C
- Applications with time-critical requirements for axis couplings



SIMOTION C – Modular and Flexible

The SIMOTION C230-2 controller is packaged in an S7-300 system. It comes with four analog drive interfaces and several "onboard" digital inputs and outputs. In addition, the C230-2 can be expanded to include I/O modules and function modules from the SIMATIC S7-300 product range. At additional interfaces, the C230-2 has two isochronous PROFIBUS connections and one Ethernet connection, thus providing many communication options.

Distributed coupling to the drives and to the I/O is also possible on the PROFIBUS. Moreover, the PROFIBUS can be used for communication with operator panels such as SIMATIC HMI or higher-level controllers such as SIMATIC S7. Operator systems that can be used include the SIMATIC HMI panels and PCs with ProTool/Pro or OPC interface.

Typical areas of application

Due to its modular design, the C230-2 is extremely flexible and can be used to satisfy many requirements, in particular:

- Highest level of freedom for drive selection
- Extremely broad range of process signals



SIMOTION P – Open for Additional Tasks

SIMOTION P350 is a PC-based motion control system. It uses the Windows NT and, in future, the Windows XP operating system with a real-time enhancement for SIMOTION.

Thus, in addition to the SIMOTION machine application, other PC applications can be executed at any time, for example, an operator control application, a process data evaluation, standard PC applications, etc.

Several panel versions are available for operating an industrial PC, with different screen sizes and input options via keyboard, mouse, or touch screen. The drives and I/O are connected by means of a distributed interface on the isochronous PROFIBUS.

Typical areas of application

Due to its open, industrial PC-based technology, the P350 is particularly well suited for:

- Requirements of openness in the PC environment
- Requirements for control and display on hardware
- Comprehensive data management, evaluation, and reporting
- High-level requirements for remote diagnostics and remote operator control

The Runtime System

Software Architecture

The objective of the SIMOTION system is to provide a simple, integrated solution for complex motion control tasks in a wide variety of machinery.

To make this possible, a special, multi-layer architecture was chosen for the runtime system.

Scalable Functionality

As a result of the technology packages, function libraries, and multi-layer architecture of the runtime system, the functionality of the SIMOTION system is:

Scalable

- Due to different functionality levels
- Due to numerous software modules with different functionality

Flexible

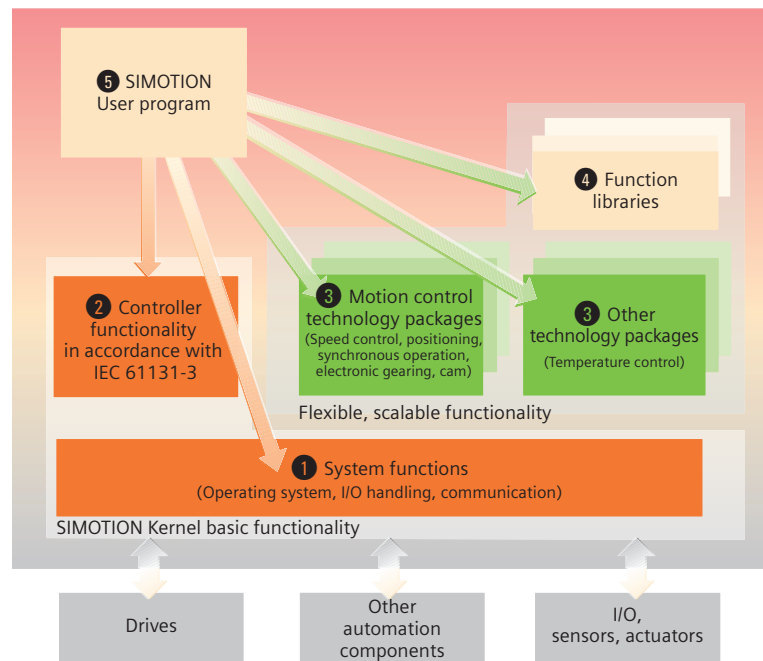
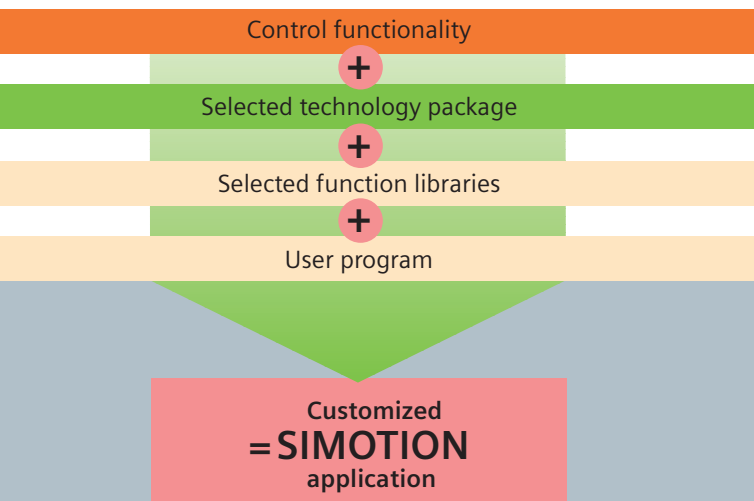
- Due to ability to combine various technology packages and function libraries

Expandable

- Due to standard functions of the function library

Layer 1 Hardware and System Functions

The hardware provides the processor, memory, and interfaces to the closed-loop drive controller, I/O, and other automation components, such as a human machine interface (HMI). This hardware can be an industrial PC, a controller, or a drive. The system functions (operating system, I/O handling, communication, etc.) begin where the hardware leaves off, and provide a hardware independent interface for the other layers.



Layer 2 Controller Functionality

This layer provides the functionality of an IEC 61131-3-compliant programmable controller as well as commands for arithmetic and logic, program control, timers, and I/O access.

Layer 3 Technology Packages

These packages provide the functionality for different technologies. The motion control package "Position", for example, provides all of the functions needed for precise positioning. The control functionality is expanded to include additional commands for motion control.

Layer 4 Function Libraries

Among other functions, these libraries include:

- Standard functions to expand the system functionality of SIMOTION (for example, controllers)
- Driver functions for special I/O modules (such as for CP communication modules)
- Standard functions for axis control in accordance with PLCopen
- Mechatronic standard functions, such as roll feed control.

Layer 5 User Program

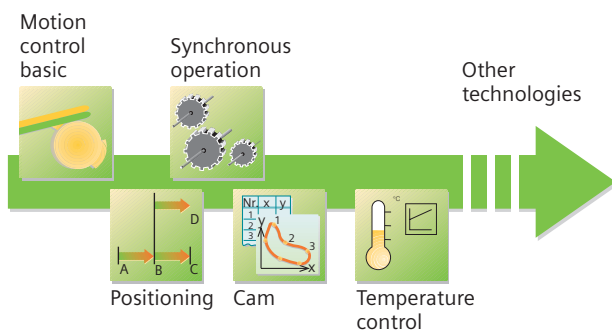
A user program can access the full system functionality – basic functionality, technology packages, and function libraries – by means of the IEC 61131-3 interface.

Whether logic or motion control commands, special technology functions, or standard applications – all can be called in the same program and in the same language.

Technology Packages

Each of these packages provides complete functionality for the relevant technology. The motion control package "Position", for example, provides all of the functions for precise positioning: cyclic setpoint and actual-value interchange with the drive, closed-loop position control, calculation of the motion profile, overriding or superimposing of motions, homing functions, encoder failover, axis enabling, status information, and so on.

In addition to motion control packages (such as Position and Cam), packages are also being created for other technologies, such as temperature and pressure control.

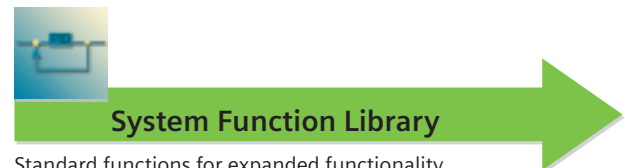


Function Libraries

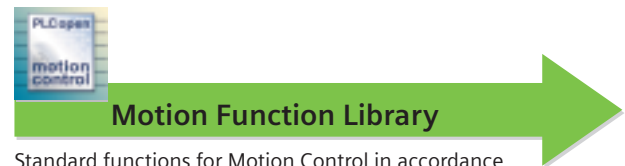
These libraries contain standard functions for frequently required tasks. In addition to the standard functions provided, user-defined functions can be created and stored in a library.

Libraries are available in several categories:

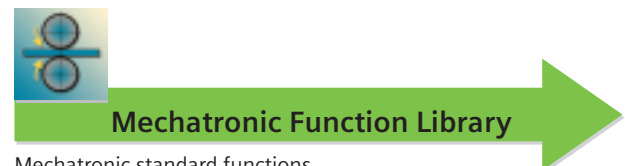
- System Function Library with standard functions for expanded functionality such as, for example, controllers, driver functions for special interface modules, etc.
- Motion Function Library containing, for example, standard functions for axis control in accordance with PLCopen
- Mechatronic Function Library with mechatronic standard functions, such as roll feed



Standard functions for expanded functionality (controllers, etc.)



Standard functions for Motion Control in accordance with PLCopen



Mechatronic standard functions (roll feed, etc.)

The Engineering System

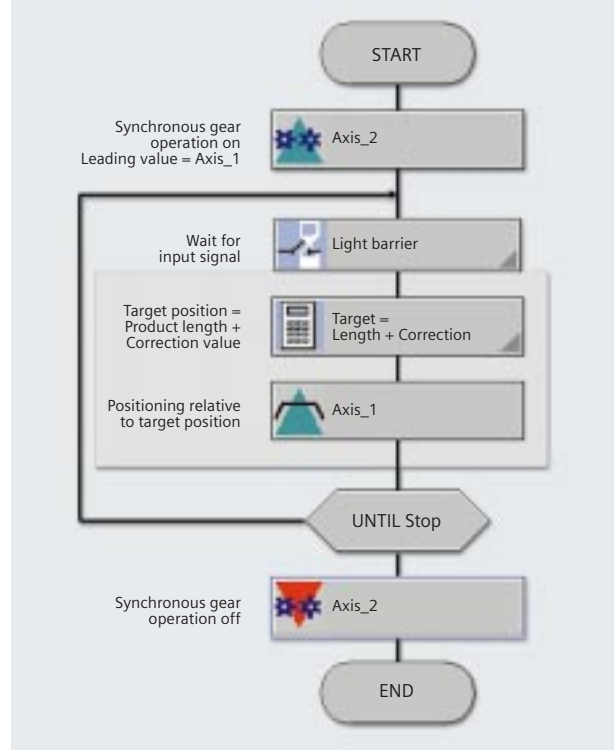
Special Emphasis on User-Friendliness

As a system becomes more powerful, its user-friendliness becomes increasingly essential. User-friendliness is necessary to enable you to easily manage the system. For this reason, SIMOTION places particular emphasis on user-friendliness of the SCOUT engineering system as follows:

- Engineering for motion control, logic, and technology, as well as drive configuration and commissioning are integrated into one system.
- Virtually all tasks are solved using graphics, including configuring, programming, testing, and commissioning.
- Intelligent user prompts, a context-sensitive Help function, and automatic consistency checks simplify all tasks, particularly for users who are programming motion control for the first time.
- All tools for the SCOUT engineering system are integrated and have a uniform look and feel.

In this way, the SCOUT engineering system assists you every step of the way, making engineering as a whole extremely simple and efficient.

The SCOUT engineering system can be used in SIMATIC STEP 7 – with integrated data management and configuration.

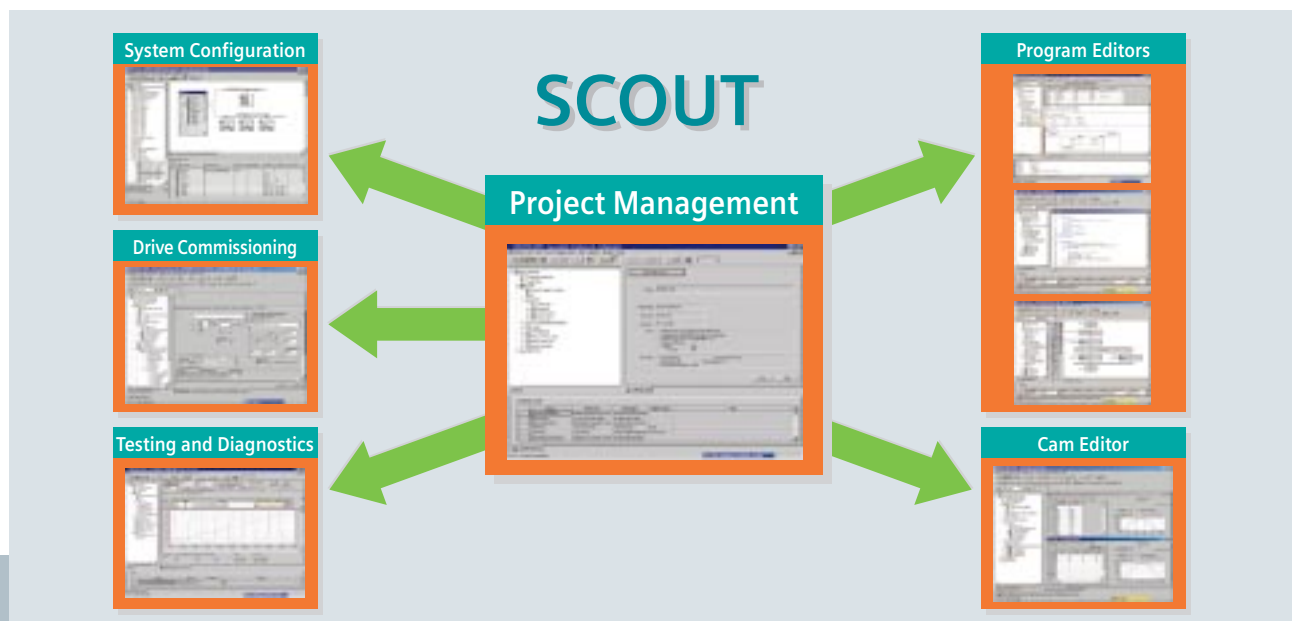


Graphics-Based Programming of Motion Control Tasks

Motion Control Chart (MCC) enables graphics-based programming of the machine program sequence in flow-chart form. In addition to motion control tasks (for example, homing an axis), commands are also available for I/O access, logic and arithmetic, subroutine calls, and program flow control.

In addition to the integrated option in MCC to configure LAD and FBD networks in zoom display, entire LAD programs (FBD in preparation) can also be integrated in the SIMOTION system.

Complex motion relationships can also be easily programmed using the cam editors.



Centralized Management with Integrated Tools

All data for a machine can be managed in one project, including configuration data, programs, motion profiles and drive data.

The required tools are then called up from the central project management system, for example, to enter a cam or commission a drive.

Axis Configuration

SIMOTION provides intelligent axis objects to make axis handling as easy as possible. For each axis, you can create and configure such an object. In doing so, you specify the following information:

- Name of axis
- Connection of the associated drive (analog/digital, bus address, message frame, etc.)
- Encoder type and resolution
- Axis technology (for example, speed-controlled axis, positioning axis, or synchronous axis)
- Additional data about axis mechanics, such as position control, limitations, etc.

Use of these axis objects has the following advantages:

Regardless of the drive type and connection or which measurement system is behind an axis, all axes are operated in the same way from the user program – with the axis name, commands, setpoints, and feedback on status and actual values.

Testing and Diagnostics

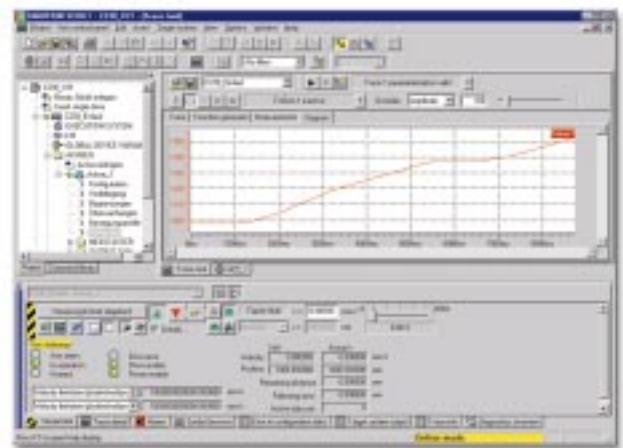
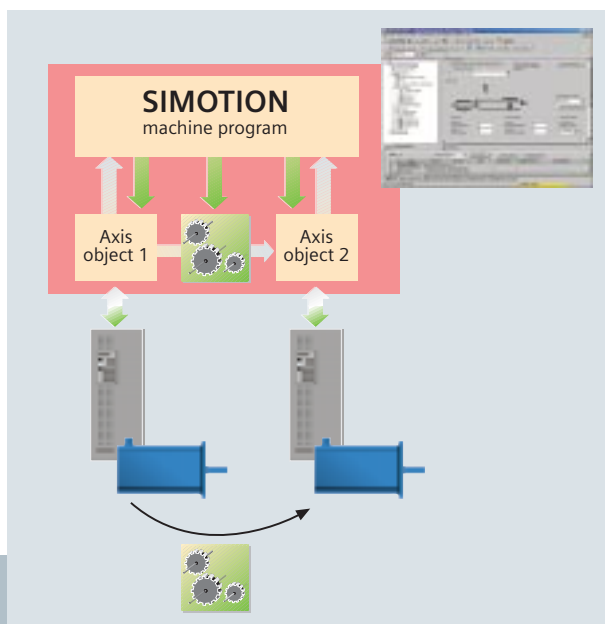
SCOUT supports the testing, commissioning, and error diagnostics of SIMOTION applications with a range of functions, such as Trace and the axis control panel.

Trace

SIMOTION has an extremely powerful trace function: The variables to be recorded, the start condition, and the recording time are defined in SCOUT; this configuration is then downloaded to the SIMOTION device. There, the values are then recorded with accurate timing and stored in a trace buffer. When the recording is complete, the contents of the trace buffer can be read and displayed graphically by SCOUT. The recorded values can also be exported to a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet for further evaluation.

Axis Control Panel

The axis control panel integrated in SCOUT provides helpful guidance for commissioning, testing, and optimizing the machine.



Totally Integrated Automation

SIMOTION – A Standard Component of Totally Integrated Automation

Totally Integrated Automation (TIA) developed by Siemens is a highly successful concept for an optimally coordinated line of automation and drives products.

The heart of this concept is integrated data management, configuration, and communication for all products and systems.

Components can be combined with little effort, saving you significant engineering and life-cycle costs.

The new SIMOTION motion control system is an integral part of the TIA concept.

SIMOTION can be combined with other TIA building blocks, such as drives, I/O modules, and components for operator control and monitoring and communication.

With SIMOTION, simple, flexible automation solutions can be implemented in:

- Compact machinery
- Modular machinery
- Machines with many axes

Using SIMOTION

SIMOTION in compact machinery

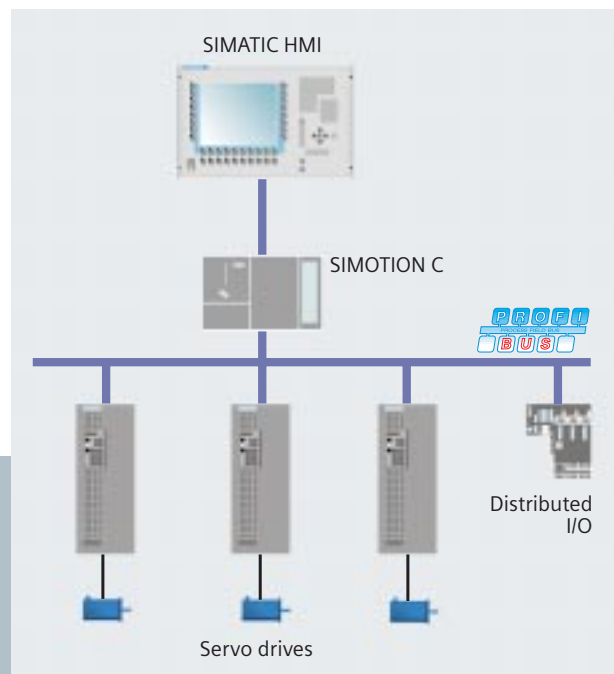
SIMOTION can fully control a machine with servo drives.

This is accomplished by using a SIMOTION controller that processes all input/output signals and controls the movement of the servo drives.

Local I/O in the controller rack and distributed I/O on the PROFIBUS DP are used to interface the process signals.

Servo drives such as SINAMICS S120, SIMODRIVE 611 universal or SIMOVERT MASTERDRIVES MC can be used on the PROFIBUS DP. The drives and applications are operated clock-synchronously via the PROFIBUS. In this mode, the PROFIBUS has real-time capability and can perform motion control tasks.

A SIMATIC operator panel connected directly to SIMOTION by means of PROFIBUS DP is used for operator control and visualization.



SIMOTION in Modular Machinery

A machine consists of two segments, each controlled by a SIMOTION system. The machine segments can be programmed and commissioned independently of one another.

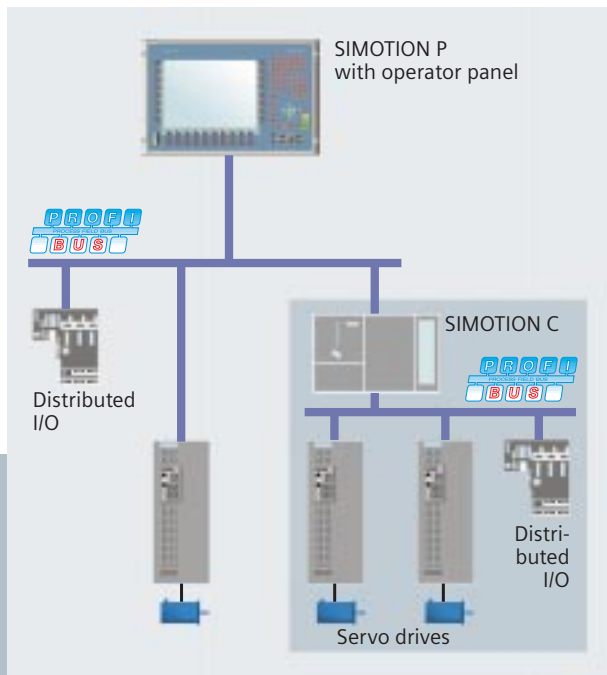
The first machine segment, with multiple servo drives and distributed I/O, is controlled by the SIMOTION P industrial PC.

The second machine segment is a self-contained module that also has servo drives and distributed I/O and is controlled by a SIMOTION C controller.

Alternatively, a solution can be implemented directly in the drive using SIMOTION D.

The SIMOTION systems and the servo drives are all synchronized via the PROFIBUS DP for motion control.

The operating system runs on SIMOTION P. SIMATIC ProTool/Pro or a Microsoft Windows application can be used for this purpose. Communication between SIMOTION and the Windows application takes place by means of the standardized OPC process data interface.



SIMOTION in Machines with Many Axes

Machines with many axes and complex motion control functionality place stringent requirements on the performance of a system, that is, every axis increases the load on the system and the bus.

SIMOTION provides a distributed automation structure, whereby the machine is distributed in different axis groupings, which are all controlled by a SIMOTION system.

The communication between the SIMOTION systems takes place in isochrone mode over PROFIBUS. Thus, the load on the bus and on the individual SIMOTION systems is considerably less, making it possible to automate even machines with many axes, complex functionality, and stringent requirements.

Because of its compact design and the fast communication within an axis grouping, the drive-based SIMOTION D is particularly well suited for this type of application.

