**Statement to the press**

# **Beneficial Cooperation**

# *Facilitate identification and locating – AIM-D e.V. and the omlox Community of the PROFIBUS Nutzerorganisation e.V. (PNO) announce cooperation*

### Lampertheim/Karlsruhe, Germany – March 01, 2021

Identification and (real-time) locating technologies are two fundamental components used in constructing resilient supply chains, flexible production and the Internet of Things (IoT/IIoT). To promote interoperability between AutoID technologies, software systems and solutions, AIM and the Profibus Nutzerorganisation e.V. are pleased to announce their mutual cooperation.

The AIM-D e.V. industry association represents the global network of AutoID experts. True to the motto “Identify – Sense – Locate,” the network relies on identification technologies like ORM\*, RFID\* and NFC\*, intelligent sensors and real-time locating systems (RTLS).

The open omlox locating standard, which is part of the Profibus Nutzerorganisation e.V., bundles all locating technologies together in centralized middleware, provides functions for real-time locating and defines ultra-wide band use in industrial settings as an open locating infrastructure. This approach enables the flexible and cost-effective use of locating technologies by small- and medium-sized businesses as well.

Working together, both organizations wish to harmonize the various different industrial standards relating to identification and locating. Through the cooperation of both networks, a unique pool of knowledge and a host of different options for knowledge transfer in logistics and production – as well as in other industries like retail trade and the healthcare industry – are being created.

“Modern production and logistics systems have become so complex that they can only be maintained and prepared for future requirements using uniform, standardized interfaces and system descriptions,” remarked Dr. Matthias Jöst, Head of the Committee omlox at the Profibus Nutzerorganisation e.V. “By cooperating with AIM-D e.V., omlox benefits from comprehensive expertise in the field of identification and can incorporate it when developing future versions of the omlox standard.”

“AIM also benefits from this cooperation, especially through the integration of ultra-wide band into the AIM spectrum of technologies,” stated Peter Altes – Managing Director of AIM-D e.V. “UWB ideally complements technologies previously modeled by AIM for (real-time) locating (RTLS, or real-time locating systems). AIM has been committed to interoperability between AutoID systems for a long time now, which is also demonstrated by the use of the OPC UA standard, among other things – and this represents another exciting interface between omlox and AIM.”

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\*Abbreviations: RFID: Radio-frequency identification; NFC: Near-field communication; RTLS: Real-time locating systems; ORM: Optically readable media (barcodes, 2D codes, OCR etc.); QR: Quick response code; OCR: Optical code recognition

**Fotos:**

Peter Altes, Managing Director of AIM-D e.V.



Dr. Matthias Joest, Head of the Committee omlox at the Profibus Nutzerorganisation e.V.



**Further information:**

About AIM: AIM-D e.V. (or AIM for short), situated in Lampertheim, South Hesse, is the leading industry association for automatic data collection, identification (AutoID) and mobile IT systems. The association promotes the use and standardization of AutoID technologies and processes. Technologies such as RFID, NFC, barcodes, two-dimensional codes, industrial sensors and RTLS (real-time locating systems) are promoted in equal measure. AIM represents around 120 members in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. AIM members include companies of every size offering AutoID technologies and products, systems and services. This includes a host of university and research institutions, as well as other associations. Under the umbrella of AIM Global and AIM Europe, AIM supports the global competitiveness of its members.

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About Profibus: Over 30 years ago, the PROFIBUS Nutzerorganisation e.V. (PNO) initiated the foundation of a large, global community which has come together under the PROFIBUS & PROFINET International (PI) umbrella organization. With 25 regional user organizations in every international market, around 1,700 member companies and many thousands of different products, PI is the largest interest group for industrial automation technology. Its global network includes most manufacturers and users from every industry. The technologies cover every key market of industrial automation, from production automation to process automation to motion control and safety applications. PROFIBUS, the leading fieldbus – PROFINET, the leading Ethernet standard – IO-Link, the leading sensor/actuator communication system – and omlox, the open and interoperable standard for real-time locating – are available automation technologies with future potential enabling production in the “Industry 4.0” generation.

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