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New EOTec ControlNet Fiber Optic Self-Healing Ring Module Helps Eliminate Downtime in Process Plants

A new Fiber Optic Self-Healing Ring Module, designed for decreased downtime in dual-channel ControlNet networks, has been introduced by Weed Instrument of Round Rock, Texas.

The 2C32 EOTec Dual-Channel Self-Healing Ring Module improves the operation of fiber optic rings on ControlNet's redundant A and B communication channels. DIN Rail-mounted on each "node" of a fiber optic ring network, the module allows fiber media redundancy by detecting and redirecting data to a secondary fiber path when a break in the fiber (on either A or B channel) occurs between itself and an adjacent node. Thus, both message integrity and timings are maintained. Once the damaged fiber path has been restored, the ring automatically resets. Process downtime due to an accidental break of one of the fiber cables is therefore eliminated.



The EOTec System can deliver up to 60% more optical power than competing models, resulting in longer transmission distances between nodes. Visible LED indicators in conjunction with relay contacts on the module allow local and/or remote monitoring of fiber optic network integrity. The module offers full functionality over a temperature range of -40° to +185°F (-40° to +85°C).

Configuration of a Self-Healing Ring modem consists of a Power Supply, an Electrical Interface, a Self-Healing Ring Module and two Optical Interface Modules. Integrated module backplane connections allow full inter-module communications and operating power.

For more information about the new 2C32 EOTec Dual-Channel Self-Healing Ring Module, contact Rick Pennavaria, Weed Instrument Company, Inc., 707 Jeffrey Way, Round Rock, Texas 78664. Phone 512.434.2850; Fax 512.434.2851.

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