

NEWSLETTER 10/2019



A Market Innovation by brehmermechatronics!

uFrame provides more safety when using tablet computers in the industry

Smart devices are being put to increasing use in the industry for the exchanging of process data, machine diagnostics and for operational planning. These are normally in the form of special industrial tablet computers as these are the only smart devices that can be integrated in the existing machine safety concept conform with the requirements of [DIN EN ISO 13849](#). Conventional consumer smart devices that the user is very familiar with are unable to meet these demands.

This was why the brehmermechatronics team has therefore developed an add-on for commercial tablet computers with the »SDeFS« (make **Smart Devices functionally safe**) project that goes under the name uFrame and supplements the important safety functions that

are required for the controlling of machines, it therefore being fully conform with the safety norm. The uFrame can also be used to control the communication between the users and central offices. This function is already in use in the most diverse fields such as in the agricultural sector, automation, transportation and in the construction industry.

The BG-Verkehr, the occupational accident insurance for the transport industry, and the IFA St. Augustin occupational accident insurance institute are providing consultation for the research project in addition to it being supported by Cologne University of Applied Sciences. ■

MARKET INNOVATION uFRAME IN DETAIL



Safety without compromises

A connecting of the tablet computer to the uFrame makes it possible for all of the board tools on the tablet computer such as the diverse apps, the GPS, the camera, the touchscreen, microphones and the speakers to be used as usual. The uFrame makes communication safe! This can be via Bluetooth or WLAN or by using an add-on module that is integrated in the machine control system. The system permits the carrying out of unrestricted updates as the communication structure is not altered at all, resulting in it not being necessary to requalify the functionally safe part. The uFrame can also be equipped with an additional release or enabling button if required. ■

The use of the most diverse apps make the following possible:

- the exchanging of process data
- the exchanging of location data
- the feedback to a control centre
- the feedback concerning the task status
- the operational planning
- the communication with each other
- the reading out of possible system errors
- the safe controlling of movements

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