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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 7, 2009
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New 32-Channel Analog Input Module Interfaces Wide Variety of Sensor Signals to Ethernet Control Network.

Acromag's latest addition to their EtherStax™ Ethernet I/O series captures data from high-level analog current and voltage signal inputs or from 7B/ 8B signal conditioner modules interfacing low-level sensor signals.

Wixom, MI: Acromag continues to extend their EtherStax® line of rugged, high-density Ethernet I/O blocks for distributed I/O and SCADA with the introduction of the ES2153 32-channel analog input model. The ES2153 converts 16 DC current and 16 DC voltage single-ended analog inputs from various transducers and instruments for transmission to an Ethernet-based control network. A DB25 serial port provides an alternative voltage input connection from a rack of 7B or 8B signal conditioning modules to monitor a wider variety of sensors including temperature, frequency, and load cells. Modbus TCP/IP and UDP/IP protocol communication, as well as peer-to-peer messaging, are supported. Fast scanning with high-resolution 16-bit A/D captures data from all 32 channels in less than 10mS. Units are available in several configurations starting at $1550.

The 16 analog current and 16 voltage inputs support many signal types. Current inputs accept ±20mA, 0-20mA, or 4-20mA ranges. Voltage inputs handle ±5V and ±10V ranges including signals from 7B or 8B signal conditioning modules supporting nearly 100 additional input types with channel-to-channel isolation. Dual-format data registers support 16-bit integers and 32-bit floating point processing. Scaling registers are configurable on a per-channel basis.

Each input channel has a configurable sample averaging function and an integrator/totalizer with non-volatile counter registers for additional signal processing tasks. Automatic zero/span calibration, with on-demand self-test diagnostics to verify the calibration, ensures reliable measurements. Acromag's i2o® technology enables re-transmission of captured input signals across any Ethernet media to remote EtherStax output modules with fast peer-to-peer updates at adjustable time intervals or a percent change (100mS, 0.1% resolution). Typical applications include process control, automated manufacturing, remote data acquisition, test & measurement, embedded computing, and supervisory monitoring systems.

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EtherStax I/O units are designed for high-reliability operation. Numerous features help prevent downtime, improve performance, and withstand harsh industrial environments. Dual network ports provide a redundant communication path for critical applications with support of 100Base-FX fiber-optic and/or 10/100Base-TX copper connections. Dual DC power terminals permit redundant power sources. Internal diode coupling delivers a "bump-less" transfer to the backup power source. A failsafe relay provides alarm output on a power or link-loss failure. A hardware watchdog timer can send outputs to a failsafe state or hold the last value if there is a communication failure. To further minimize downtime, the I/O circuitry features over-temperature, over-voltage, and over-current protection. Continuous 250V AC (354V DC) isolation – with a peak 1500V AC rating – safely separates I/O signals from the power, relay, and Ethernet ports. Other industrial-grade specs include extended -40 to 70°C operating temperatures.

The stackable, high-density packaging enables installation of nearly 100 I/O in a space-saving 8 x 7" footprint. A high-strength aluminum enclosure gives IP20 protection with 50g shock and 5g vibration resistance. This rugged design is ideal for mounting on DIN rails, walls, or directly on machinery. Pluggable terminal blocks make for easy installation and servicing. A stackable open board version (no housing) simplifies mounting in NEMA enclosures with lower costs for OEMs and system integrators.

EtherStax are well-suited to many applications for both end-users and OEMs. The remote I/O abilities are perfect for monitoring, supervisory control, and data acquisition tasks at water, power-gen, and oil/gas facilities. On the plant floor, the rugged construction delivers dependable performance for a variety of distributed I/O functions. And in a control panel, the compact design permits mounting in tight spaces. Low power, high efficiency, fanless system designs can be accommodated. CE and UL approvals are pending. EtherStax are suitable for use in Class I, Division 2, Group ABCD, Zone 2 locations.

Acromag is an international corporation that has been developing and manufacturing measurement and control products for more than 50 years. They offer a complete line of industrial I/O products including process instruments, signal conditioning equipment, data acquisition boards, distributed I/O systems, and network communication devices.

For more information about Acromag products, call the Inside Sales Department at (248) 295-0880 or Marketing Communications at (248) 295-0865, FAX (248) 624-9234. E-mail sales@acromag.com or write Acromag at P.O. Box 437, Wixom, MI 48393-7037 USA. Our web site is www.acromag.com.

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300dpi TIFF image attached
Shown: EtherStax Model ES2153 high-density analog input blocks with 8B signal conditioner panel