

# Thunderbolt enables extension for CAN

**Kithara Software has announced the support for the communication interface Thunderbolt. In conjunction with the Realtime Suite, this way all devices in a system connected can be registered and controlled in real-time. CAN plays also a role.**



Real-time capabilities for Thunderbolt allow for communication of components which also includes real-time connection to extensions for PCIe plug-in cards, such as for CAN, in order to be mobile on-site and to be able to test and measure directly at the machine (Photo: Kithara)

Real-time capabilities for Thunderbolt allow for immediate communication of components with the least possible delay. This Thunderbolt implementation also includes the usage of appropriate hardware extensions in real-time, such as for connecting PCIe plug-in cards, such as for CAN, to laptops. With this, the Berlin-based company also responds to the increasing demand for improved mobility of software-based real-time solutions, for example when testing or measuring on-site and directly at the machine.

“Many of our customers work in vehicle or special engineering and thus are often dependent on the mobility of a laptop. This however does not mean that one has to forgo real-time capabilities or interface connectivity via PCIe plug-in cards, such as for Ethernet or CAN. With real-time support for Thunderbolt we want to underline the basic idea—Kithara real-time is wherever the user needs it”, Uwe Jesgarz, managing director of Kithara Software, explained.

Based on Displayport and PCI Express, Thunderbolt is mainly used for connecting computers with external peripheral devices. Since Thunderbolt 3 and the utilization of USB-C connectors, the interface has become relevant for PC users as well, due to data rates of up to 40 Gbit/s, USB Power Delivery as well as support for PCIe and Displayport.

Since Thunderbolt 3 and the utilization of USB-C connectors, the interface has become relevant for PC users as well, due to data rates of up to 40 Gbit/s, USB power delivery as well as support for PCIe and Displayport. Due to the expertise of Kithara Software regarding real-time USB connection, the recently announced USB 4, which itself will be based on Thunderbolt, is given special emphasis in future developments of the company.

[CW](#)