

EDITORIAL

Rolf Becker
CEO AS-International



Dear Readers,

So far, 2023 has been a challenging year for AS-International and its members. Yet, despite political and economic instability, we look back on an overall positive business performance in 2023. With a 52% increase in installed AS-Interface masters, which relates to a significant rise in AS-Interface networks when comparing the first half of 2022 to the first half of 2023, AS-International underlines its continuing growth and stands out economically and technologically. Supply shortages still prevalent at the beginning of the year due to strained supply chains were eliminated as the supply of electronic components improved considerably and is now stabilized. Various technological innovations were introduced. For 2024, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasts a slight upward growth to 3.1%.

AS-International is currently not able to provide a precise forecast. However, we expect positive business performance for 2024 and feel confident that AS-International will continue to grow in the global market.

Our members report unanimously: ASi-technology is in demand globally and represents an excellent foundation with high investment security as various projects and applications demonstrate, especially the Terminal 5 project at the Chinese airport Xi'an and a process technology project in the pharma industry.

The Terminal 5 project uses the robust, established, and reliable ASi-3 standard for comprehensive conveyor technology for baggage handling. AS-Interface technology transports baggage through the system at lightning speed. According to our member, the project shows that AS-Interface technology is far from being maxed out and continues to have great potential.

A customer from the pharmaceutical industry has been successfully using AS-Interface for years. The simplicity and the performance spectrum convinced him. Therefore, the new plant is to be based on ASi-5 technology. By using ASi-5, a significant

performance increase was achieved while retaining the ingenious connection technology. The digital future can be implemented reliably and cost-effectively.

Both examples show that AS-Interface has a vast potential, economically and technologically. Innovations in all AS-Interface applications support its global success. AS-Interface technology provides innovative, customized solutions.

It is easy to see that AS-International and its members continue to be highly successful. Above-average growth can be observed in many industries and markets. The outlook is very positive.

AS-International supports this success through global marketing activities such as workshops, technology seminars, and national and international trade show exhibitions.

The next trade show exhibition will be at the SPS 2023 (smart production solutions) in Nuremberg, where AS-Interface experts welcome all customers, interested parties, and visitors. Booth 246 will be located in hall 7A, offering the opportunity to talk face-to-face with AS-Interface experts.

In addition to the live event in Nuremberg, we offer a visit to the AS-Interface Arena. The Arena is a digital exhibition for all interested parties who cannot be onsite.

Let's conclude this editorial with the following request: Let's optimistically turn to the future and successfully shape it together.

Sincerely yours, Rolf Becker
CEO AS-International

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