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Software and Systems

NovaCarts EtherCAT

The NovaCarts EtherCAT (NC-ETHCAT) feature enables NovaCarts real-time nodes to act as EtherCAT Master devices. The feature saves the inputs and outputs of the devices connected to an EtherCAT network in the NovaCarts parameter database, thereby allowing real-time communication with EtherCAT devices from simulation models.

New EtherCAT devices can be easily integrated by importing an ENI file. After the import, the EtherCAT I/Os can be handled in the same way as standard NovaCarts I/Os.

EtherCAT (Ethernet for Control Automation Technology) is an Ethernet-based fieldbus system. The protocol is standardized in IEC 61158 and is suitable for both hard and soft real-time computing requirements in automation technology. Many inexpensive I/O devices are available for EtherCAT.

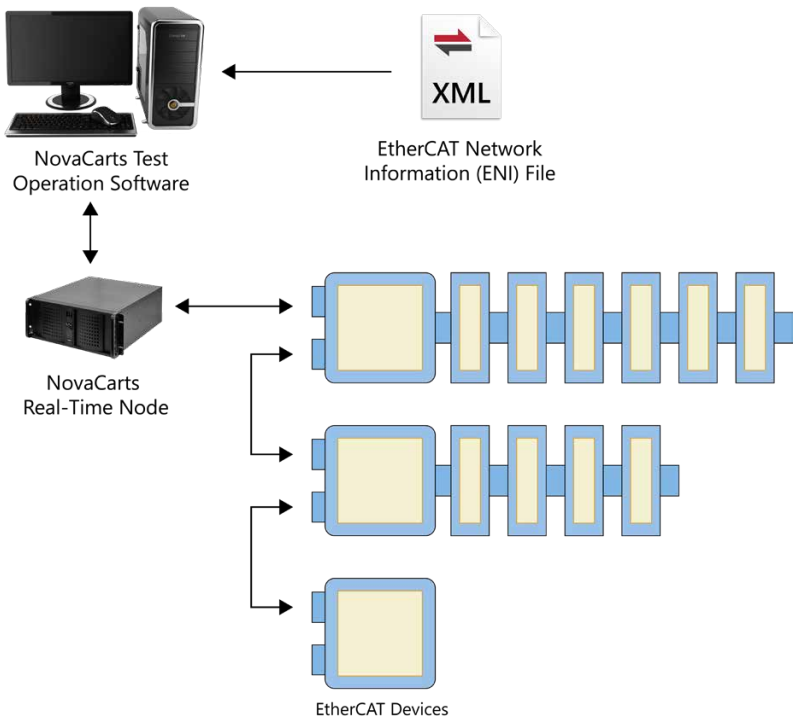

Figure 1 – NC-ETHCAT NovaCarts network components

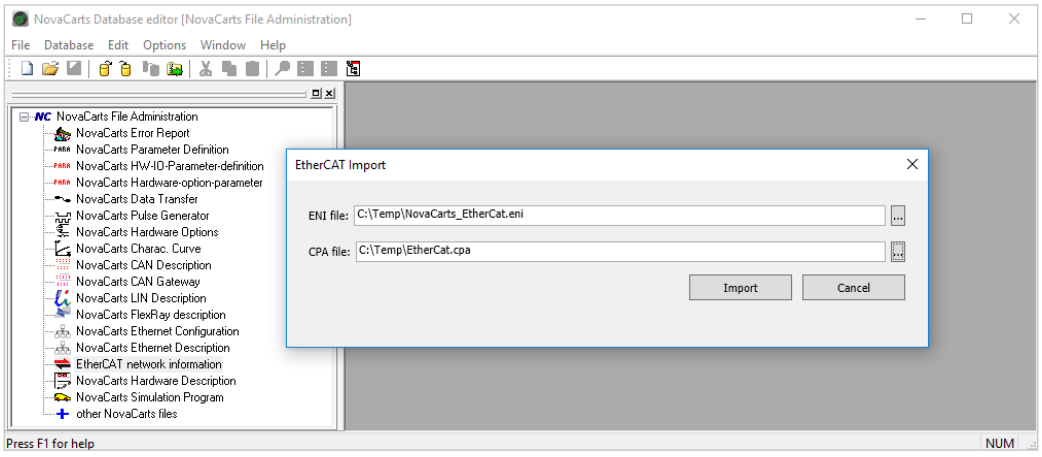

Figure 2 – NC-ETHCAT NovaCarts Database editor – ENI file import window

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Data Sheet

Order number: **NC-ETHCAT**

Data sheet version: **1V0**

Features

» Control EtherCAT I/O modules from NovaCarts Real-Time Node
» Read and write NovaCarts parameters from or to EtherCAT devices
» Supports the standard EtherCAT network configuration file format (*.eni)

Specifications

Supported variable types	BYTE/WORD/DWORD INT/UINT (up to 32 bits) BIT/BOOL BIT1-8 REAL/LREAL (float/double) Undefined data type with size <= 32 bit
EtherCAT network setup	NovaCarts Real-Time Software supports the import EtherCAT configuration files (*.eni) and maps parameters from EtherCAT process data automatically to NovaCarts database parameters