

PLC, HMI, AND I/O

## 7-inch touchscreen

Samba, a range of all-in-one, palm-sized PLCs with HMI and onboard I/Os, offers functionalities that system integrators need for small applications. The recently added 7-inch panel supports CANopen.



*The range of Samba PLCs (Photo: Unitronics)*

SAMBA WANTS TO FILL A GROWING NICHE: OEMs on a tight budget who need compact controllers for simple machine control, but still want the advantage of a color-touch HMI panel. The first model of Samba was released last spring; a few months later, Unitronics (Israel) expanded the series, adding a model with a 4,3-inch HMI panel. Now the company is introducing a 7-inch HMI panel. The 16-bit touchscreen enables data entry and display of variable data, including color trend graphs and alarm screens. Samba supports 24 user-designed screens and 5 MiB images per application. The integrated PLC offers a range of features including 2 auto-tuned PID loops, time-based RTC control, data logging, recipes, and more.

All Samba units come supplied with a programming port (USB for 4,3 inch and 7 inch, EIA-232 for 3,5 inch). Additional ports can be added: EIA-485 or Ethernet, and a CAN port. Samba supports CANopen and J1939, GPRS/GSM, email and SMS, as well as industrial TCP/IP protocols, Modbus, and DF1 slave; it can also be adapted to any 3rd-party protocol.

The internal memory holds 112 KiB of application logic, plus 512 KiB for fonts and 5 MiB for images. Onboard I/Os offer digital, analog, and high-speed functionality. The flat fascia and IP66/IP65/NEMA4X rating make Samba a fit for the food and pharmaceutical industries, anywhere spray or wipe down requirements apply.

Samba uses Unitronics' free Visilogic software. The software provides a single environment for hardware and communications configuration, ladder application development, and HMI design, including a free library of industrial images. Free utilities include remote PC access and data export. The company offers unlimited technical support for all of their products and supports an active user forum.