

CAN Newsletter Online

COMPANY RELEASES

Versatile use of CAN-to-USB interfaces

Kvaser's U100 CAN (FD) interface family has been expanded to include the USB type-C connector. The company's interfaces are used on earth and even in outer space.



The recent Kvaser U100-C is a single-channel CAN(FD)-to-USB interface (Source: Kvaser)

With the latest laptops and PCs shipping with USB-C slots only, the Kvaser U100-C has been added to the company's U100 range. This interface is based on the standard U100 device with a 9-pin D-sub connector on the CAN side, but replaces the USB type A connector with the smaller USB-C format. As with other devices in the range, the device is powered via the USB connector.

Toolkit uses Kvaser U100 for OBD-II testing

In a [video](#), Kvaser's partner Accurate Technologies (ATI) shows its Vision software with Enhanced Diagnostic Toolkit (EDT) combined with the Kvaser U100 interface for OBD-II stack testing. The toolkit, which is designed for use throughout the diagnostic development and validation process, and from prototype to production vehicle, is suitable for both electric and internal combustion engine platforms.

How to send data from Excel on CAN and vice versa

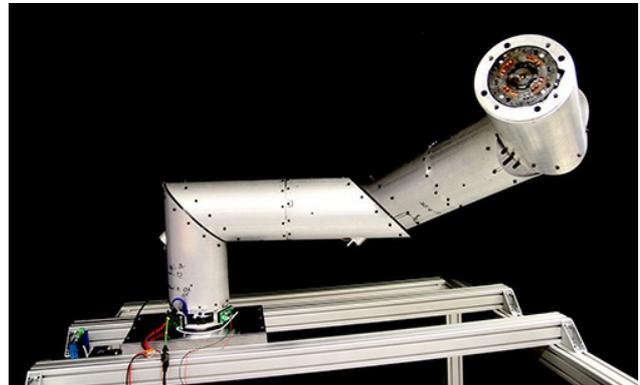
Dan Arvidson, Kvaser's Customer Software Manager, has [written a blog](#) showing how Kvaser CANlib can be used in Visual Basic for Applications (VBA). He explained how it can be used to send data from Excel on the CAN network and vice versa.

Robotic manipulator for work in space

Building, maintaining, and repairing spacecrafts in orbit extends their lifetime and reduces the amount of space junk. Application of robotic systems minimizes the need for inherently risky human interaction in servicing, maintenance, and assembly tasks. Traditional space robotic systems are created for specific purposes or applications, and often require a vast amount of design effort and cost, often making them unfeasible for many missions.

A collaboration between the Institute of Space Systems (IRAS) at the Technical University of Braunschweig and the Institute of Structural Mechanics and Lightweight Design (SLA) at RWTH Aachen University, has led to a project to modularize a robotic manipulator for use in space applications. The [modular manipulator](#) can adapt itself physically, modifying its length and degrees of freedom during operation as necessary. The modular concept is redundant and adaptable to multiple tasks. It significantly minimizes stowage space and increases operational flexibility, explained the company.

Racks for electronics within each module house devices for power handling, controls, and communication. Kvaser's Leaf Light HS v2 CB (circuit board) USB-to-CAN interface is used to control servo drives from Copley Controls. Actronic Solutions provided advice and support to the project, suggesting the PCB-based CAN interfaces and supplying the servo drives. The concept can be also applied in other harsh environments such as the ocean floor or in the confined, highly-radioactive space of a nuclear reactor, and many more.



The team has developed two on-earth demonstrators to determine the operating loads, design of actuators, design of joints, as well as design and optimization of the structure (Source: Kvaser)

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