

Smaller Plus Tougher Equals Better

It's one of the most satisfying and effective outcomes of developing technology: that to accomplish any given task you can find a tool that's not only smaller, but also tougher than what has come before.

TK Engineering of Finland is using rugged handheld computers from Handheld to put that principle to full use. TKE, a leading specialist in CAN (Controller Area Network) applications, has developed two new software programs that are designed to be run on the TDS Recon and Nomad rugged mobile computers from Handheld. CANtracePPC is used to analyze CAN traffic, and CANopen Conf tool is used to configure CAN nodes.

Rugged tools for demanding environments

The key to properly matching software and hardware for these tools is that service personnel tend to use them in demanding environments – and the Recon and the Nomad deliver the necessary ruggedness and stability.

Both the Recon and the Nomad carry IP67 ratings that mean they're impervious to water and dust, and they also meet stringent U.S. military standards for withstanding drops, immersion and extreme temperatures.

Quick access to useful information

Not only are the handhelds rugged and more portable, but they also deliver improved operation. While a conventional laptop suffers from a slow boot-up process, the Recon and Nomad are up and running in seconds, allowing for a quick at-a-glance analysis of data on the network. They also feature Flash storage, which allows users to capture data in log-files that can be analyzed in detail later. Flash also holds the CAN signal definition files, making it easier to analyze the CAN data because it can be presented in a human-readable format with the corresponding engineering units.

The Recon features a standard CAN-RS232 interface, while the Nomad offers a CAN-USB interface than allows the software to analyze more data at faster speeds. Both units also have a WLAN interface, which can be used to retrieve data from, and write data to, the target system.

! For more information about the Nomad, visit www.ultrarugged.com or www.handheldgroup.com



Challenge

To find a smaller and tougher hardware product to be used with the newly designed software programs to analyse CAN traffic in demanding, tough environments.

Solution

TK Engineering chose the IP67 rated Recon and Nomad PDAs, handhelds that are water and dustproof as well as withstands drops, immersion, and extreme temperatures.

Result

The rugged and stable Recon and Nomad deliver improved operation, as they are up and running in seconds, allowing for a quick at-a-glance analysis of collected data. In addition, the units are also very ergonomic.



Handheld is a world wide supplier of rugged PDAs and handheld computers. All our products are ruggedized and can withstand water, dust, drops and vast temperature changes. Handheld and its partners deliver complete mobility solutions to businesses in industries such as logistics, forestry, public transportation, construction, military and security.

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