

Press Release



Topic: The AEF at Agritechnica 2019

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AEF: cross-manufacturer compatibility of electronic components

Together with over 220 international member companies, the Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF) has been committed to cross-manufacturer compatibility of ISOBUS products since 2008. The aim is to ensure smooth interaction of machines, devices and terminals in agricultural practice.

Although manufacturers of agricultural technology have agreed on ISOBUS as a common “language” for agricultural applications on a worldwide basis, not all machines, devices and terminals are able to communicate with each other for various reasons. ISOBUS is based on the International Standard ISO 11783. In practice, the standard is large and open for interpretation causing some confusion and dissatisfaction among dealers and farmers.

AEF Conformance Test and AEF ISOBUS Database

To enhance quality and transparency, the AEF has drawn up supplementary guidelines for individual functionalities. During development AEF members design products according to the functionality concept. Subsequently, they perform a conformance test, also developed by the AEF, to have their ISOBUS products certified by independent test institutes. If a product has successfully passed the test, the manufacturer may use the AEF ISOBUS certified label as evidence. It documents the conformity of the ISOBUS product with the ISO standard 11783 and the AEF guidelines. Additionally, the certified product is published in the AEF ISOBUS Database. This Database – which is also available as an APP – quickly provides detailed information to dealers and farmers about the specific

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ISOBUS functions of a product and the compatibility with other products. This is a great help when deciding on the purchase of a new piece of equipment.

TIM presentation at Agritechnica 2019

The AEF will be present at Agritechnica 2019 with an exhibition stand in hall 14/15, H43. One of the main focuses of the AEF trade fair attendance is the presentation of TIM (Tractor Implement Management). This is a new functionality developed by the AEF that enables secure, industry leading communication between the tractor and the implement. TIM is a cross-product and cross-manufacturer ISOBUS solution in which the implement (or third-party system), controls certain tractor functions to optimize the working process. What is new is that the implement (or third-party system), sends information to the tractor via standardized and secure communication which allows for optimization of the overall system. From the 1st of December 2019, manufacturers will be able to certify TIM products with the AEF Conformance Test.

Test Center also represented on the AEF stand

ISOBUS Test Center (ITC), one of the five independent test institutes that carries out the AEF Conformance Test for manufacturers on behalf of AEF, will also be represented on the AEF stand. Interested parties can obtain information about the certification of ISOBUS machines, the AEF Certified Label and the AEF ISOBUS database.

Digital Farming – Communication beyond the Machine

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The understanding of the benefits of digital farming is increasing day by day and the importance of getting all the data in one place to aid decision making is the ultimate goal. Thanks to the high level of collaboration amongst AEF member companies to help all the players in the agriculture industry, i.e. farmers, dealers and manufacturers, work successfully with ISOBUS, the AEF is now also looking outside “the field” to investigate how “machine to cloud” and even “cloud to cloud” communications can be standardized to enable the benefits of digital farming to be realised.

Further information on the AEF, TIM and the AEF ISOBUS Database can be found at www.aef-online.org.

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The Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF)

The Agricultural Industry Electronics Foundation (AEF) is an independent organization founded on October 28th 2008 by seven international ag equipment manufacturers and two associations. Today eight manufacturers and three associations are working as core members together with 220 general members. They work to improve cross-manufacturer compatibility of electronic and electric components in agricultural equipment, and to establish transparency about compatibility issues. Implementing international electronic standards is therefore a cornerstone of our work. Furthermore, the AEF encourages the development and implementation of new technology. While the AEF's intention is to enable mutually beneficial links between companies, the effort is first and foremost directed at their farming customers, i.e. to make work easier for them and to provide them with economic benefits.

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Picture caption (AEF_It_Works_1_2019.jpg)

AEF's message at the Agritechnica 2019: It works.



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