



## **Kepware Technologies Releases KEPServerEX Version 5.6**

### **Two New Drivers and Plug-in Option Impacts Oil & Gas and Manufacturing Industries**

PORTLAND, ME--(Marketwire - Jul 25, 2011) - Kepware Technologies, the leader in Communications for Automation, announced today that it has released KEPServerEX version 5.6. Kepware has added three new products to its communication platform KEPServerEX which have primary relevance to the Oil & Gas and Manufacturing industries.

The Weatherford 8500 Serial Driver was developed as part of Kepware's continuing effort to provide reliable and intuitive products to the Oil & Gas industry. It communicates with WellPilot Rod Pump Controllers, which gather and monitor critical production information from oil and/or gas well sites. KEPServerEX's connectivity to Weatherford 8500 allows operators to monitor information, alarms, and events from remote locations and provides operators the ability to make process adjustments.

Kepware has also added a Media Level Redundancy plug-in option to KEPServerEX to address the critical operations that often occur in the Oil & Gas industry. Media Level Redundancy including Device Level and Communications Path Based Redundancy will be offered as a free plug-in for the next six months. Device Level and Communications Path Based Redundancy provide an additional level of reliability over Kepware's existing RedundancyMaster product, which supplies OPC Clients with OPC Server redundancy.

"We are investing heavily in the Oil & Gas space over the next year. This includes the delivery of additional communications protocols, as well as application-level functionality required by this industry," said Tony Paine, President of Kepware Technologies. "The Weatherford 8500 Serial Driver will be the first of many additional protocols released over the next several months. In addition, Media Level Redundancy will allow customers to develop or take advantage of their existing fault tolerant systems."

KEPServerEX's new MTConnect Driver allows connectivity to industry leading machine tools that support MTConnect or any legacy equipment through an MTConnect Agent. MTConnect is a royalty-free Open standard for connecting shop floor technologies that furthers the Automation industry's goal of seamless manufacturing operation. The MTConnect Driver allows the retrieval of machine-level statistics for productivity, OEE, and SPC analysis.

"The MTConnect Institute is excited to have an industry leader, such as Kepware, become an MTConnect Technical Advisory Group Member, as well as announce an MTConnect Driver for their KEPServerEX release," said Dave Edstrom, President and Chairman of the Board for the MTConnect Institute. "It is companies like Kepware who see the importance of moving toward common interface standards for manufacturing, such as MTConnect, that will help bring about



the interoperability capabilities needed to reduce the overbearing costs of connectivity on the shop floor."

The KEPServerEX 5.6 release also includes a new Applicom device model for the Modbus Ethernet Driver, a Ford Ethernet Protocol device model for the Torque Tool Driver, and several CTI device models for the Simatic 505 Ethernet Driver.

In all, 25 driver enhancements and over 75 KEPServerEX platform enhancements were made.

## **About Kepware**

Kepware Technologies, established in 1995, develops a wide range of communication and interoperability software solutions for the Automation industry. Our flexible and scalable solutions are for connecting, managing, monitoring, and controlling diverse automation devices and software applications. Our industry endorsed software solutions improve operations and decision-making throughout all levels of an organization. Kepware Technologies' mission is to be "Your Standard for Connectivity." For more information, visit [www.kepware.com](http://www.kepware.com).

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