

# LXI Continues to Grow Internationally

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I write this *LXI ConneXion* column from 39,000 feet somewhere over the Pacific, row 34, seat H. I normally try to sleep during these flights, but today I want to share some of the excitement generated at our first LXI meeting in China.

We had a great meeting in Beijing, where we received a very warm welcome from a large, enthusiastic crowd of integrators and product developers. At last count, 187 Chinese engineers and managers spent three days with us in Beijing, making this the best attended LXI event yet.

The meeting rooms overflowed into the hallways, and we heard a lot of excellent questions from a well-informed audience. The agenda featured two tracks, one directed at integrators and one for developers, and the response was stunning.

In the applications track, participants listened enthusiastically as systems integrators described real applications and benefits achieved using LXI test equipment in deployed systems. In the developer's track, members of the LXI Technical Committee gave detailed, behind-the-scenes perspectives on the LXI specification to engineers interested in building LXI products.

I was most impressed by the broad recognition from Chinese engineers and managers that Ethernet plays a major role in the future of test and measurement. I was pleased to see the excitement over new capabilities of Ethernet-enabled instruments and the quality of questions that came from engineers already working on LXI instruments and systems.

It was clear from the discussions, both in the meetings and in the hallways, that many companies not only support LXI, but also they are developing products and systems using the LXI standard. It's exciting to see such broad support from China, an increasingly important center for design and manufacturing.

We saw hybrid systems where LXI works in parallel with legacy GPIB, VXI, and PXI systems. We also saw applications using Ethernet features such as multicast messaging and scripts that bypass and simplify controller-to-instrument traffic and automatic discovery and addressing. For more about the China meeting, check out the attendee podcasts on the LXI website.

The consortium's next European meeting will be hosted by Rohde & Schwarz in October in Munich. For details, visit the LXI website, <http://www.lxistandard.org>.

Many of you will be heading to AUTOTESTCON 2007 in Baltimore. If you are attending, stop by the LXI Consortium booth to see us. The LXI Test System working group is preparing some great demos showing how easy it is to configure LXI systems and some advanced LXI capabilities. We also encourage you to visit the LXI member booths to get a better look at some great new products.

