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## **Opto 22's *groov* EPIC Firmware Update Enhances Secure Remote Access with VPN, adds Inductive Automation Ignition Options**

*New update adds virtual private networking, new network diagnostic tools, and choice of Inductive Automation's Ignition editions*

Temecula, CA - September 4, 2019 – Opto 22 announces the release of firmware update 1.4.1 for the *groov* EPIC® Edge Programmable Industrial Controller, expanding the capabilities of this next-generation industrial control system. Engineers and developers will find helpful new networking options and tools, plus new software choices for their automation and industrial internet of things (IIoT) applications.

For secure remote access to the *groov* EPIC, the system now offers VPN (virtual private network) client technology to connect to an OpenVPN-based VPN server. This option is a rare feature in programmable controllers and a key to creating secure data communication architectures, particularly with geographically dispersed systems.

For example, an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) embedding *groov* EPIC in their machine design could benefit from establishing a remote connection to their equipment using industry-standard, IT-friendly VPN technology for diagnostics and predictive service. Likewise, a system integrator could use the VPN technology to provide continuing integration services after equipment is installed at a plant or location.

Also with the new release, users can choose between Inductive Automation's® Ignition Edge® or the full Ignition platform, whichever edition is better suited to their application. Choosing the full Ignition option allows *groov* EPIC to serve as an industrially hardened OPC-UA server to legacy PLCs—like Rockwell Automation, Siemens, Modbus, and more—eliminating the need to purchase,

configure, and deploy Windows-based computers to perform this function. This option can also significantly reduce the need for IT involvement in many cases.

In addition, the full Ignition edition allows users to install and utilize more Ignition modules, including those for database connectivity, reporting, text/email alarming, and Sepasoft MES.

New diagnostic and troubleshooting tools have also been added to *groov* EPIC for testing network connectivity, including ping, test TCP port, traceroute, and nslookup. All are now available from the embedded *groov* Manage application to assist in quickly isolating or pinpointing networking problems.

Other enhancements in this upgrade include the following:

- The two independent, segmented Gigabit Ethernet network interfaces now have complete control over gateway and DNS/DHCP configurations. Each interface can have its own gateway and DNS server; users can now manually override gateway address, name servers, and search domains, and set the priority for backup gateways and DNS provisioning.
- The included IEC 61131-3 compliant CODESYS Runtime now supports Opto 22's new *groov* EPIC serial communication module ([GRV-CSERI-4](#)), so control programs that need serial communications support can be developed.
- The embedded, open-source Node-RED runtime and editor has been upgraded to version 0.20.5.
- Other improvements include accessing console log files and preserving all *groov* Manage settings during firmware updates.

Version 1.4.1 is a free upgrade for all *groov* EPIC users. Current customers can log into [manage.groov.com](http://manage.groov.com) and simply download the file and update their EPICs. Complete upgrade instructions are available in the [groov EPIC User's Guide](#). For new customers, all *groov* EPICs now ship with this latest firmware version.

## About Opto 22

Opto 22 designs and manufactures industrial control products and Internet of Things platforms that bridge the gap between information technology (IT) and operations technology (OT). Based on a core design philosophy of leveraging open, standards-based technology, Opto 22 products are deployed worldwide in industrial automation, process control, building automation, industrial refrigeration, remote monitoring, and data acquisition applications. Designed and manufactured

in the U.S.A., Opto 22 products have a worldwide reputation for ease-of-use, innovation, quality, and reliability. For over 40 years OEMs, machine builders, automation end-users, and information technology and operations personnel have and continue to trust Opto 22 to deliver high-quality products with superior reliability. The company was founded in 1974 and is privately held in Temecula, California, U.S.A. Opto 22 products are available through a global network of distributors and system integrators. For more information, contact Opto 22 headquarters at +1-951-695-3000 or visit [www.opto22.com](http://www.opto22.com). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#).

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