

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Josh Eastburn, Director of Technical Marketing

800-321-6786

jeastburn@opto22.com

Copies of this release and related photographs: <https://www.opto22.com/about-us/pressroom>

Opto 22's *groov* EPIC version 3.3 firmware boosts networking capabilities

New features support remote access gateway functions for securely managing devices and PLCs

Temecula, CA - November 11, 2021 – The latest firmware for the *groov* EPIC edge programmable industrial controller from Opto 22, version 3.3.x, was announced today. This version, available as a free download for all existing customers, delivers much-requested enhancements to EPIC's networking capabilities. In addition to processing and integrating OT data into backend applications, as before, EPIC can now act as a secure remote access gateway, enabling authorized users to modify and administer PLCs and other field assets without requiring an industrial PC at the field location.

"Using *groov* EPIC as a PLC gateway is awesome!" said Arlen Nipper, President and CTO at Cirrus Link Solutions and co-inventor of MQTT and Sparkplug. "Compared to many of the IPCs I've used, the experience is so much simpler. No programming or messing around on the command line, just point-and-click configuration. This is the ideal way to use Ignition at the edge."

By design, *groov* EPIC allows users to establish security zones between trusted OT networks and external IT LAN or internet traffic using its embedded firewall, user management functions, SSL/TLS certification, and multiple segmented network interfaces. Using other pre-installed tools like Ignition Edge from Inductive Automation, Node-RED, and CODESYS, users can acquire and publish OT data from this secure zone directly into backend applications via MQTT, REST API calls, or traditional industrial communication protocols.

Firmware version 3.3.x adds port redirection and static routing, allowing legitimate connection requests initiated from external networks to reach destinations within the secure OT zone, facilitating maintenance activities such as PLC program updates. Authorized users can create secure conduits between trusted and untrusted networks on-demand from a local, remote, or

mobile HMI connected to *groov* EPIC and through REST API calls. Using EPIC's embedded VPN client, engineers can even connect to PLCs on remote networks without exposing them to unwanted access.

The new networking features have been incorporated into a refreshed *groov* Manage interface that makes it easier to find the suite of diagnostic tools already included, such as ping, traceroute, and nslookup. The EPIC's network settings can be configured completely through this browser-based interface.

This release also upgrades other key components of the *groov* EPIC ecosystem.

For users of Node-RED on *groov* EPIC, the popular Dashboard UI can now run on EPIC's onboard touchscreen as well as on PCs and mobile devices and be launched automatically on boot-up. The Node-RED runtime and Node.js engine are upgraded to versions 2.0.6 and 12.22.1, respectively.

The CODESYS runtime engine has been upgraded to 3.5.17.10 and now includes OPC UA client capabilities, giving users another option for integrating device tags into real-time control code.

Finally, version 3.3.x supports the new AC power monitoring and universal I/O modules slated for release in Q4 2021 and enables new features for the existing GRV-IDCI-12 and GRV-ITR-12 I/O modules.

Availability

groov EPIC firmware 3.3.x is available now as a free download via manage.groov.com, and new networking features are compatible with all EPICs manufactured since March 2018. 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.

The [Opto 22 Library Package for CODESYS 2.0.3.0](#), necessary for programming with the CODESYS development environment, is also available as a free download from www.opto22.com.

About *groov* EPIC

groov EPIC is an edge programmable industrial controller (EPIC). More than a PLC, PAC, or PC, it is a Linux-based processor in a compact industrial enclosure, with local and remote I/O and wide-ranging programming and communications options. In addition to real-time control,

groov EPIC provides the connectivity many of today's projects require: it connects to field sensors and devices, legacy PLC systems, software applications, remote equipment, and cloud services for anything from weather conditions to big data analytics and predictive maintenance.

About Opto 22

Opto 22 designs and manufactures industrial control products and internet of things (IoT) 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 45 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. Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#).

###