

CASE STUDY

MYLAPS SPORTS TIMING TECHNOLOGY COMPANY



ABOUT

MYLAPS globally operates and works with events, timers, athletes and partners all over the world. The company provides timing and data solutions for various sports, such as motorsports, active sports and cycling.



CUSTOMER

MYLAPS Sports Timing Technology Company
WWW.MYLAPS.COM

LOCATION

Netherlands

DISTRIBUTOR

Computer Products Professionals
WWW.CPPB.NL

LOCATION

Belgium

CHALLENGE

- Precision time and data recording at outdoor racetracks

RESULTS

- Mobile network rings for two racetracks
- High availability without failure
- Reliable operation in a range of environments and across a wide temperature range
- Compact size for easy installation in field boxes

THE PROBLEM

Timing data in circuit racing is critical for the sport. Not only must results be precise and instantly available, but timing data must also be gathered and shared at various points during the race.

The MYLAPS sports timing technology company provides a timing and data collection system to a racing association that needs to be accurate and reliable. In addition to timing data, the system provides detailed track data, such as speeds and locations, to racetrack operators, timekeepers, and associations. It also enables drivers to access critical performance data in real time.

To acquire and share this data instantly and accurately, the MYLAPS system needs reliable system components with high availability. Ethernet switches used for data transmission are central to system performance.

THE SOLUTION

MYLAPS wanted to improve the availability of its existing Ethernet switches. It approached automation and network experts at Computer Products Professional Benelux BV to inquire about a more reliable alternative. They recommended Red Lion's Sixnet® series SLX managed industrial Ethernet switches.

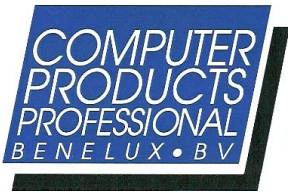
Red Lion Ethernet switch solutions had demonstrated their value for multiple clients of this distribution partner in projects across industries, including railways, nuclear power plants, and the petrochemical industry. In this case, MYLAPS needed a solution that enabled both status monitoring and display race timing in real-time. It selected the SLX-6RS-5CC-D1 with Modbus/TCP via Ethernet.

THE RESULT

A network ring is set up at the racetrack for each race to record time and data. The ring consists of 40 field boxes. Each box is equipped with a timing module that receives and evaluates signals sent from RFID transponders on each vehicle. Each box also contains an Ethernet switch that forwards the data received by the timing module to a higher-level control system for processing. The network ring is dismantled after the race for use at another racetrack. To avoid logistical bottlenecks, the association maintains two complete network rings, i.e. 80 field boxes in total.

The SLX-6RS-5CC-D1 Ethernet switches, designed to perform dependably in a range of rugged industrial environments, have proven themselves on the racetrack. With an operating temperature range of -40 °C to 85 °C, the switches function reliably even in hot midsummer temperatures. Thanks to their compact size, the switches are easily accommodated in the field boxes.

Each switch has six ports: Four 10/100BaseTX RJ-45 ports and two 100 BaseFX single-mode 20km fiber ports with SC connectors. The solution supports both half and full duplex operation.

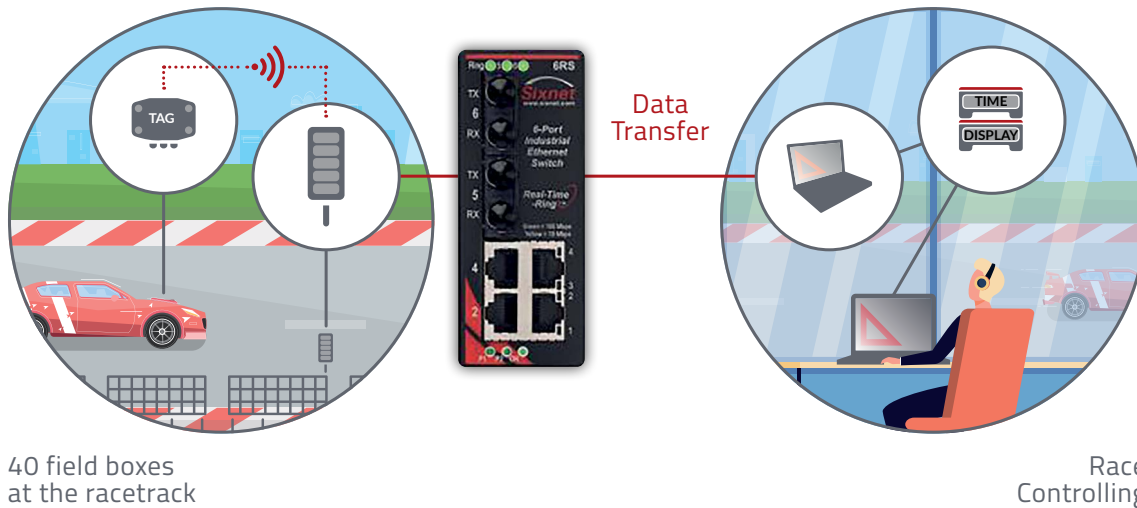


THE COMMENT FROM COMPUTER PRODUCTS PROFESSIONAL

“Red Lion’s rugged Ethernet switches continue to impress us with their reliability,” says Ton van Oostende of Computer Products Professional Benelux BV. “We also appreciate the flexible and responsive support Red Lion provides to us and our clients.”

THE DIAGRAM

Red Lion Race Controlling



Red Lion is focused on being THE Industrial Data Company™. We empower industrial organizations around the world to unlock the value of data by developing and manufacturing innovative products and solutions to access, connect and visualize their information. Red Lion's global manufacturing and support facilities serve customers in factory automation, alternative energy, oil and gas, power and utilities, transportation, water and wastewater industry segments. We provide scalable solutions for cloud connectivity, edge intelligence and asset management, industrial Ethernet switches and industry-leading panel meters and operator panels, to make it easy for companies to gain real-time data visibility that drives productivity.