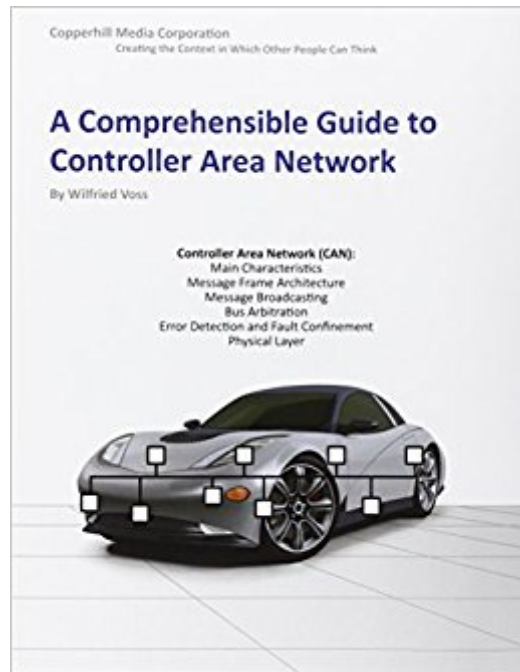




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A Comprehensible Guide To Controller Area Network



Synopsis

A Comprehensible Guide to Controller Area Network by Wilfried Voss represents the most thoroughly researched and most complete work on CAN available in the marketplace. Controller Area Network (CAN) is a serial network technology that was originally designed for the automotive industry, especially for European cars, but has also become a popular bus in industrial automation as well as other applications. The CAN bus is primarily used in embedded systems, and as its name implies, is a network technology that provides fast communication among microcontrollers up to real-time requirements, eliminating the need for the much more expensive and complex technology of a Dual-Ported RAM. This book provides complete information on all CAN features and aspects combined with a high level of readability.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Wilfried Voss is the author of the "Comprehensible Guide" series covering topics like Controller Area Network (CAN), SAE J1939, Industrial Ethernet, and Servo Motor Sizing. Mr. Voss has worked in the CAN industry since 1997 and before that was a motion control engineer in the paper manufacturing industry. He has a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Wuppertal in Germany. Mr. Voss has conducted numerous seminars on industrial fieldbus systems such as CAN, CANopen, SAE J1939, Industrial Ethernet, and more during various [Real Time Embedded And Computing Conferences](#) (RTECC), ISA (Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society) conferences and various other events all over the United States

and Canada. Mr. Voss has traveled the world extensively, settling in New England in 1989. He presently lives in an old farmhouse in Greenfield, Massachusetts with his Irish-American wife and their son Patrick.

There is good information here for someone new to CAN. I found the reading tedious due to material being constantly repeated in what seemed like a way to increase the page count. The information could have been presented in a much more efficient manner and editing by a native English speaker would have considerably improved readability.

I didn't find the repetitive nature as bad as everyone complained about. I'm a European automotive technician and this was hugely insightful and a good help to diagnosing CAN issues.

This book does a pretty good job of explaining how CAN communication protocol works. For someone who does not know what CAN bus is or how it functions this book is perfect. The diagrams in the book are very good at illustrating what the author is describing. The book does repeat a lot of things. Sometimes you just have to skip sections when you realize it's just reiterating the same thing you have read two other times. But it's not that bad compared to all of the useful information you get from the book.

I'll keep this brief, but I wanted to give this book the 5-star rating it deserves. This book is a one-stop shop to go from "What the hell is CAN?" to "OK, now I know everything I need to know about CAN." This book doesn't - and can't & shouldn't -- discuss higher layer protocols, nor the specifics of the CAN controller chip on your board. It (thankfully) sticks to the subject without getting distracted on tangential topics. (Note: I believe the author has a book coming out in early 2008 regarding the higher-layer J1939, I'll be waiting in line for that one too.) The book is very clearly written, has lots of pictures (a must in any technical book), and is thorough & complete. *Anyone* starting with CAN should start here.

Very good introductory reference for CAN Networking technology which is widely used in Automotive. Very few good books available on CAN and this is one of them! Get this book if you are new to CAN and Automotive Technology.

This book repeats itself. This book repeats itself. You'd be better off with a couple quick Google

searches.

Sentences and/or paragraphs are repeated much too often. This book also isn't organized well. Needs an editor to streamline it. It's like a rough draft or second draft. The information is good, but it's annoying to read at times because of the way it's put together and too much repeat info.

I've been working with CAN networks for several years and have taken CAN classes from some of the big companies in the field. This book provided more detailed information and better descriptions than any other reference I've used. I especially found useful the sections on error and overload frames, and bus bandwidth usage. The only complaint I have is the frequency that information, in fact entire paragraphs, are repeated verbatim.

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