

CMMT EtherCat controlled by C++

This document describes how to control the CMMT EtherCat version with the programming language C++, using the SOEM (Simple Open Source EtherCat Master) library.

CMMT-AS-...-EC,
CMMT-ST-...-EC

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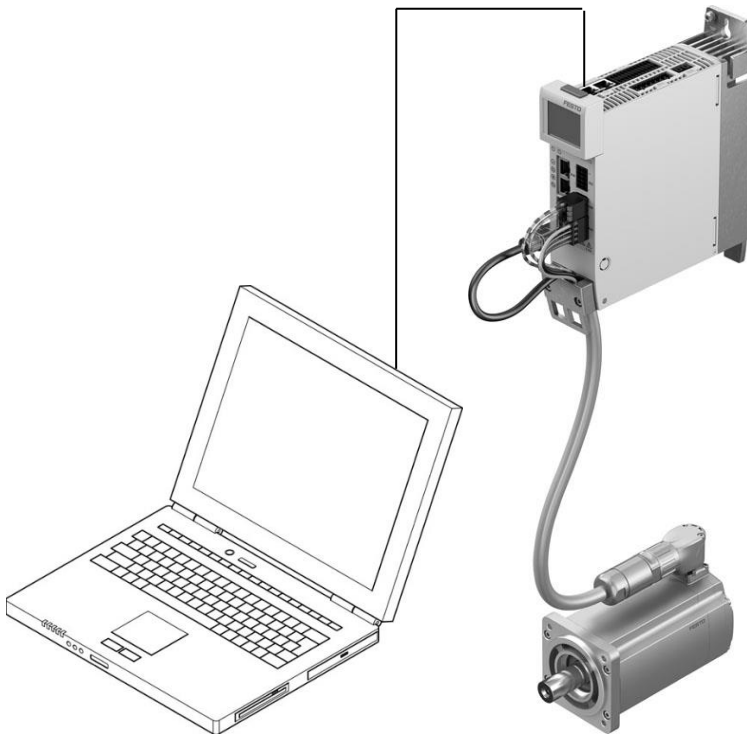
1 Components/Software used

Type/Name	Version Software/Firmware	Date of manufacture
CMMT-AS-C2-3A-EC-S01	17.0.8.48_release	
Visual Studio	2019	
Visual Studio tools for Cmake	1.0	
Visual C++ 2019	00435-60000-00000-AA969	
SOEM library (included)	1.3.3	
WinPcap	4.1.3	
C++ Sample Program (included)	0.0.2	
Automation Suite	1.3.2.4	

Table 1.1: 1 Components/Software used

1.1 Topology of the tested system

The Network adapter from the EtherCat Master (controlling system), is directly connected to the XF1 IN port on top of the CMMT.



2 Introduction

The examples presented in this document are based on the hardware and software mentioned in the previous chapter. This does not mean that they will not work on other versions, or other hardware. It only means they were successfully tested on the ones mentioned before. To make this Application Note more platform independent we used CMake a building platform supported on both Windows and Linux.

2.1 Preparation of the software (Windows)

Install CMake and C++ from the Tools and Features menu in Visual Studio.

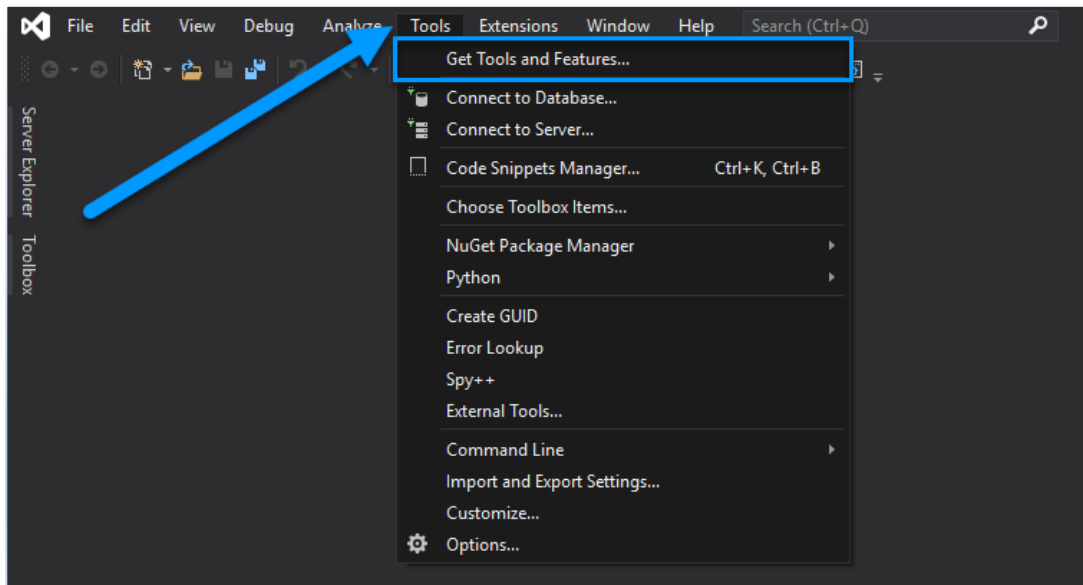


Figure 2-1 Where to find the Tools and Features menu

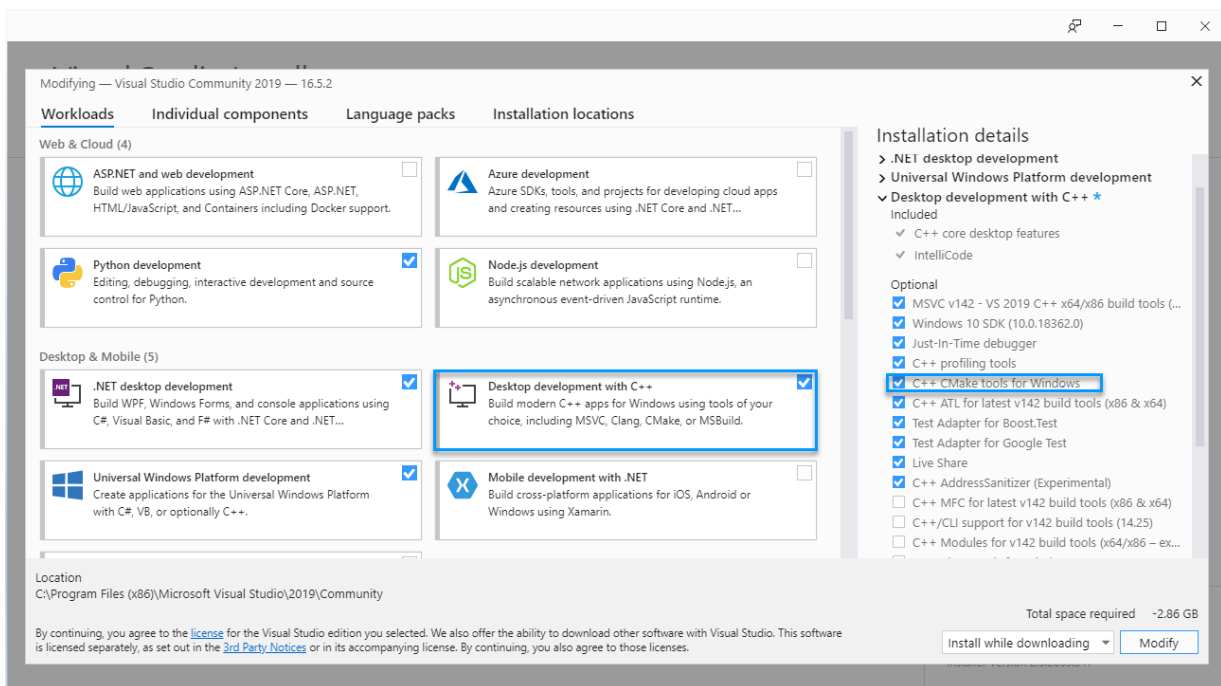


Figure 2-2 Tools and Features menu.

2.2 Install WinPcap

EtherCat is not a default part of Windows or Linux. To get RAW access to the Ethernet Adapter we use the PCAP driver interface. This interface is also included in programs like WireShark, to monitor network traffic.

Download and install the program from : <https://www.winpcap.org/>

On most systems a restart is required after installation. All configuration of this software is done automatically.

3 Sample program

The sample program is included in this Application note. After the instructions in chapter 2, it is now possible to open a CMake folder.

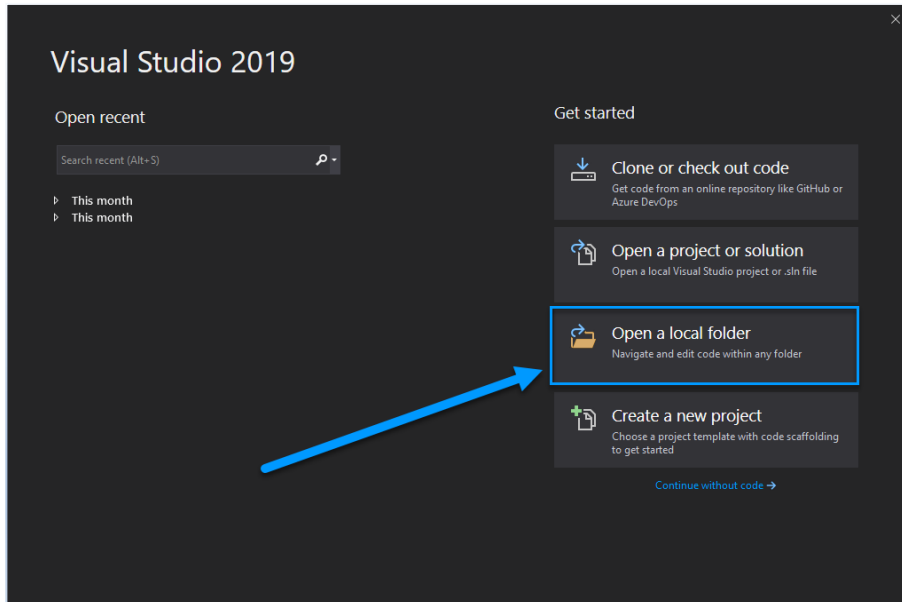


Figure 3-1 Open the sample program

3.1 Open the target view

The sample program includes multiple sample programs. The general programs to get more information about your topology and a program made by Festo to show you how to control your drive. On the right side of your screen we can change the default view, to the target view. This will display all individual programs.

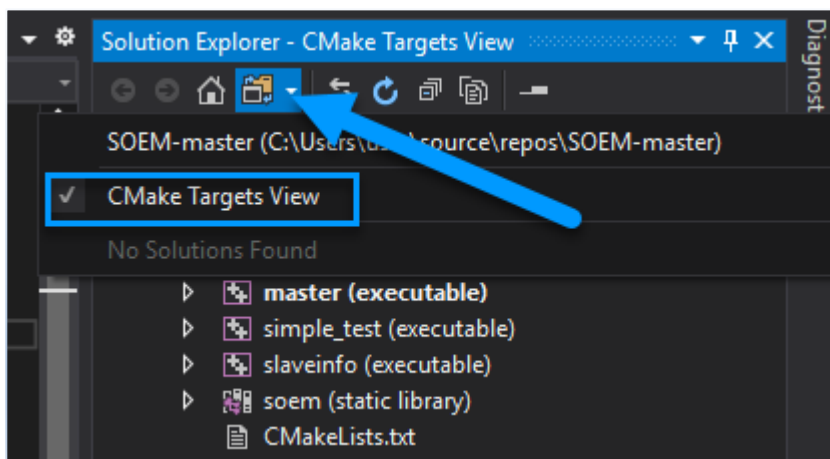


Figure 3-2 Target View

3.2 Select the slaveinfo program

The “slaveinfo” program is a very useful standard program in the SOEM library to get information about your EtherCat master and slaves. To run this program, right click on the slaveinfo (executable) and

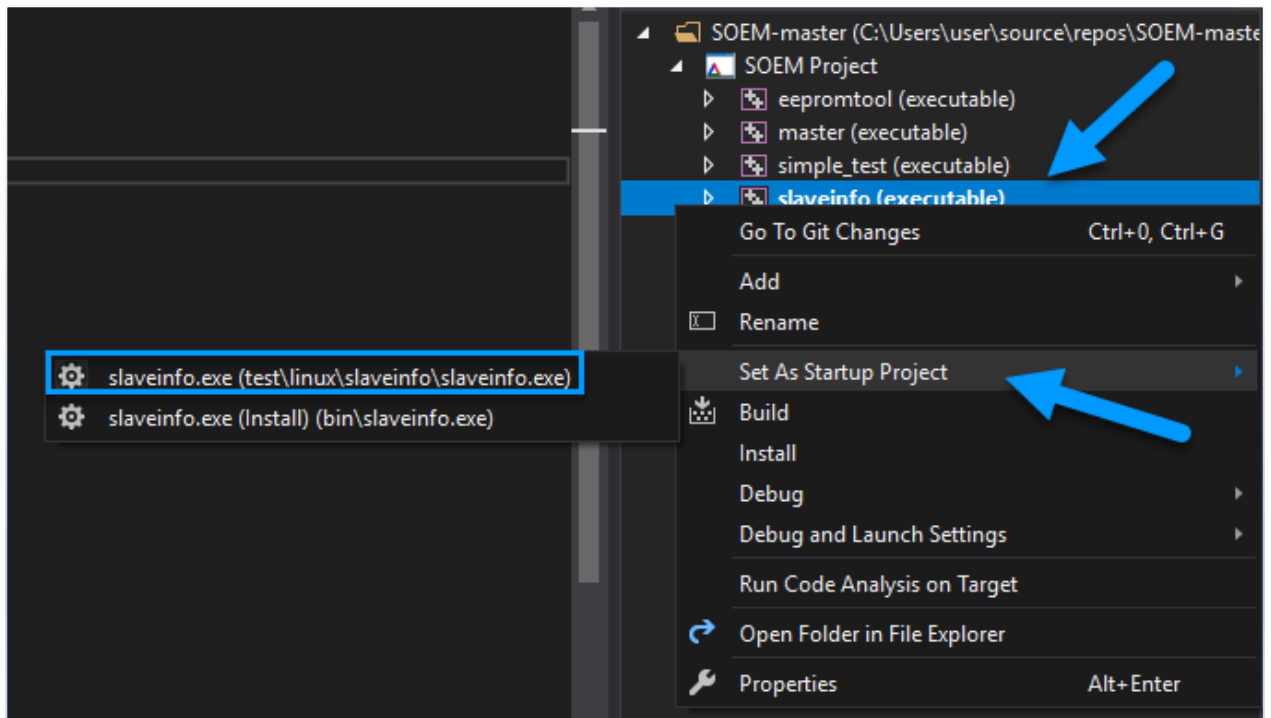


Figure 3-3 Select Startup project

3.3 Learn your network device name

The program needs to know on where to setup the EtherCat master. For this we need to have the unique identifier of your network adapter. On Linux this can be “eth0” for example. On Windows this is a longer unique description number. We can find this number with the “slaveinfo” sample program.

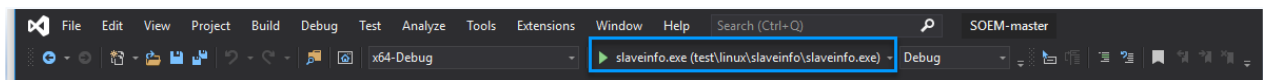


Figure 3-4 Start the program form the top bar

The output of this program will show us the unique identifying number of each connected network interface.

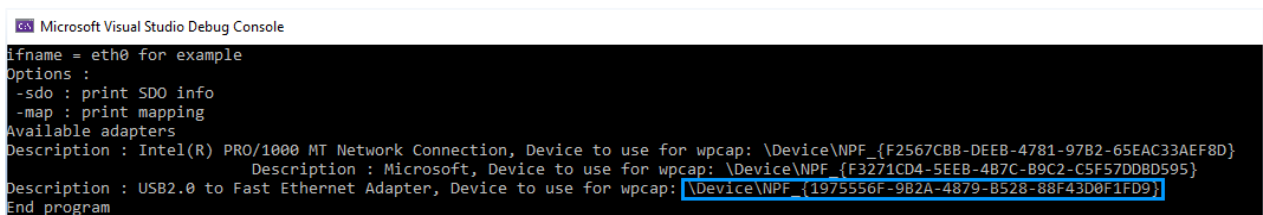


Figure 3-5 List of interfaces

In this example the interface number is “\\Device\\NPF_{1975556F-9B2A-4879-B528-88F43D0F1FD9}”. The slash in the programming language C is however a special character. We need to modify this value to make it correctly readable by our programming language. To do this we simply add an extra “\\” to every “\\”. The new value now becomes “\\\\Device\\\\NPF_\\{1975556F-9B2A-4879-B528-88F43D0F1FD9}”.

4 Units of movement

The formatting of data is dependent on how it is configured in Festo Automation Suite. In this example an unlimited rotative drive is used. We configured a unit of revolution/rotation, with a precision of -6.

The screenshot shows the 'Fieldbus' configuration page in the Festo Automation Suite. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Drive configuration, Device settings, Fieldbus (selected), Digital I/O, Analogue I/O, Encoder interface, Axis 1, Operator unit, and Parameter list. The main area is titled 'Factor group' and contains a table of configuration parameters for 'Current user unit'. The table has two columns: the parameter name and its value. The values are displayed in input fields with a precision indicator on the right. The 'Position' and 'Velocity' fields are highlighted with blue boxes.

Factor group	
Current user unit	Rev [rev, rpm, ...] (3)
Position	-6
Velocity	-3
Acceleration	-3
Jerk	-3

This means that when we want to move to a position of 20 rotations, this is transmitted over the fieldbus with this extra precision of -6. Resulting in a setpoint of 20 000 000 to achieve this.

The same is done for the Velocity, in this case we are using a precision of -3, resulting in a setting of 10 000 if we want to achieve 10 rpm.

5 The Master program

Copy the device name and select the master program, like done in chapter 3.2.

5.1 Open the main source file

Double click to open the “main.cpp” source

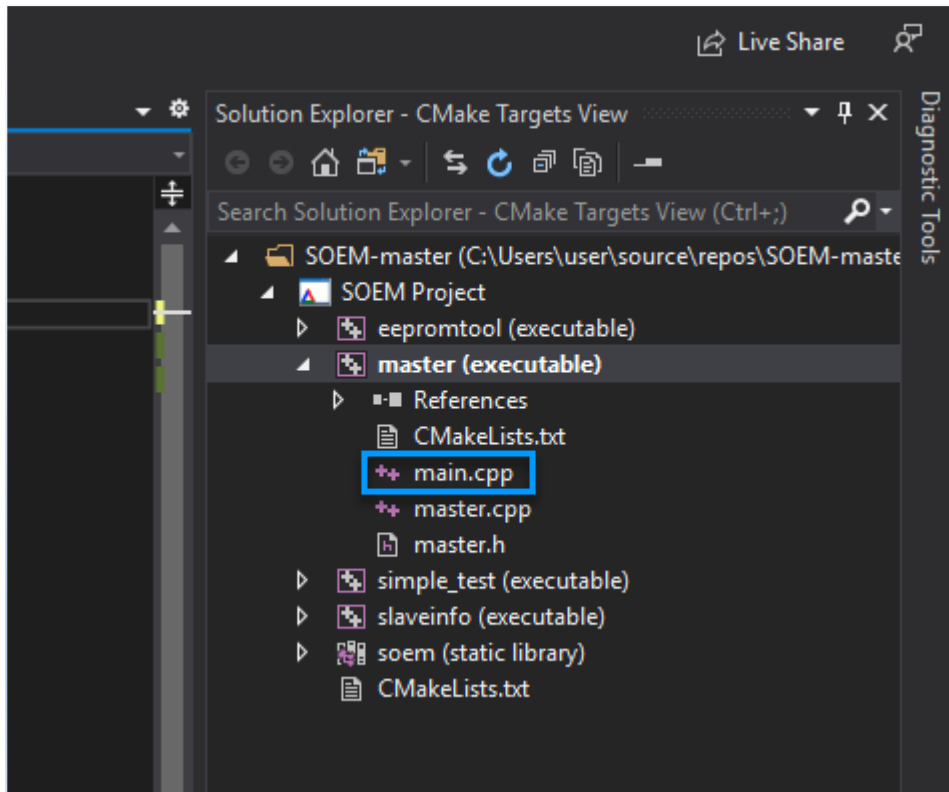


Figure 5-1 The sample program

5.2 Paste the correct network adapter

Use your unique network identifier from chapter 3.3

```

1  #include "master.h" // To include the EtherCat Master library
2
3  int main(int argc, char* argv[])
4  {
5      char ifaceName[] = "\\Device\\NPF_{1975556F-9B2A-4879-B528-88F43D0F1FD9}"; // Your network interface name here
6
7      Master ecMaster(ifaceName, 8000); // 8000 = 8 ms cycle time
8
9      int slaveNr = 1; // Slave to move in this example 0 = Master, slaves numbered in connected order
10
11     ecMaster.enable(slaveNr); // Power the drive
12
13     ecMaster.home(slaveNr, true); // Home the drive, even when already homed (true)
14     ecMaster.jogPos(slaveNr);
15     Sleep(5000); // delay next instruction for 5 seconds
16     ecMaster.jogNeg(slaveNr);
17     Sleep(5000); // delay next instruction for 5 seconds
18     ecMaster.jogStop(slaveNr);
19     Sleep(5000); // delay next instruction for 5 seconds
20
21     ecMaster.movePosition(slaveNr, 20000000, 100000); // absolute movement position and velocity
22     ecMaster.movePosition(slaveNr, -5000000, 10000, true); // relative movement (true)
23
24     return 0;
  
```

Figure 5-2 Selecting the correct network card

5.3 Run the test

If you work from a virtual machine, your network adapter latency is higher than normal. A cycle time of 8 ms or 8000 nanoseconds should be safe on most recent computers.

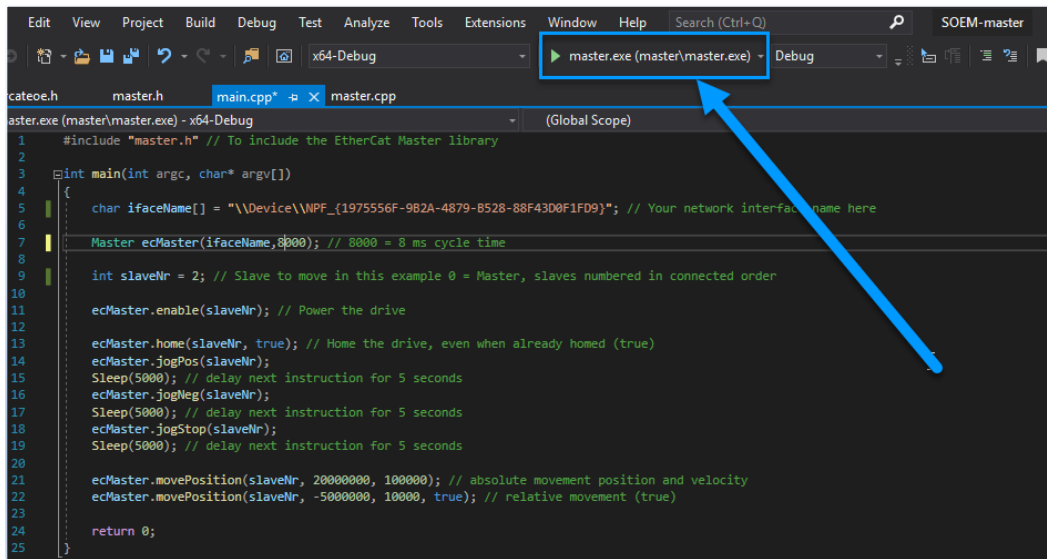


Figure 5-3 Run the program, test your configuration

If you are getting the correct amount of slaves and no errors, than the connection is successful.

6 Supported commands

For every project you need to create a master and enable the drive. The enable command automatically also resets all errors on the drive.

Create your EtherCat master:

- `Master name(ifaceName,8000); // 8000 = 8 ms cycle time`

We select the created master “name” than the command you want to use, followed by the slave number

- `name.enable(slaveNr); // Power On the drive`
- `name.disable(slaveNr); // Power Off the drive`
- `name.home(slaveNr, true); // Home the drive, even when already homed (true)`
- `name.movePosition(slaveNr, 20000000, 100000); // absolute movement position and velocity`
- `name.movePosition(slaveNr, -5000000, 10000, true); // relative movement (true)`
- `name.getPos(slaveNr); // Returns the actual position`
- `name.getError(slaveNr); // Retrurns 0 if no error`
- `name.disable(slaveNr); // Disables the drive`

These movement functions are all blocking commands, that means the function quits when the movement or action finishes. The return value for a successful operation is 0. It is possible to stack these functions to make a sequential program.

The next commands are non-blocking, this means that the movement will continue after the commands finishes.

- `ecMaster.jogPos(slaveNr); // Moves slave in the positive direction`
- `ecMaster.jogNeg(slaveNr); // Moves slave in the negative direction`
- `ecMaster.jogStop(slaveNr); // Stop jogging`

That means the drive will keep jogging until a new command or the `jogStop(slaveNr);` is issued. If there is no sleep command between the `jogPos()/Neg()` and `jogStop()` then the drive will stop immediately after it's start.

7 Multiple Drives

We can use multithreading to control multiple drives together. We need to start the master only a single time and then running the different slave commands in different threads.

```
#include "master.h" // To include the EtherCat Master library

char ifaceName[] = "\\Device\\NPF_{1975556F-9B2A-4879-B528-88F43D0F1FD9}"; // Your network interface name here

Master ecMaster(ifaceName, 8000); // 8000 = 8 ms cycle time

void thread_function(int slaveNr )
{
    ecMaster.enable(slaveNr); // Power the drive

    ecMaster.home(slaveNr, true); // Home the drive, even when already homed (true)
    ecMaster.jogPos(slaveNr);
    Sleep(5000); // delay next instruction for 5 seconds
    ecMaster.jogNeg(slaveNr);
    Sleep(5000); // delay next instruction for 5 seconds
    ecMaster.jogStop(slaveNr);
    Sleep(5000); // delay next instruction for 5 seconds

    ecMaster.movePosition(slaveNr, 20000000, 100000); // absolute movement position and velocity
    ecMaster.movePosition(slaveNr, -5000000, 10000, true); // relative movement (true)
}

int main(int argc, char* argv[])
{
    std::thread t1 = std::thread(&thread_function, 1);
    std::thread t2 = std::thread(&thread_function, 2);

    t1.join();
    t2.join();

    return 0;
}
```