Beckhoff — EK EtherCAT Couplers

EK1122



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The **EK1122** is a dual-junction EtherCAT coupler produced by **Beckhoff** and supplied under the EK EtherCAT Couplers series. In an automation cell, the unit serves as a network branch point, allowing two subordinate lines to attach to the primary EtherCAT trunk while continuing the internal E-bus to downstream I/O terminals. By performing this distribution within the DIN-rail footprint, it removes the need for external switches and simplifies cabinet wiring.

Each junction uses the branch sequence **1->2->E-bus**, so incoming frames are forwarded first to junction 1, then to junction 2, and finally to the backplane bus that links additional terminals. The device provides **two independent branches**, enabling point-to-point connections or localized subnets inside the machine. Its enclosure carries the **IP20** protection class, indicating finger-safe terminals and suitability for installation inside a control cabinet. The network uses a **star topology**, meaning both outgoing ports behave as individual node roots rather than as a line extension. When neither branch is cabled, the internal logic keeps communication active by maintaining **a bridge between junctions 1 and 2**, preventing an inadvertent link break.

Compatibility with networks using distributed clock synchronization begins at **revision -0017 with FW 01**. Earlier hardware revisions cannot generate DC reference signals, but they still pass EtherCAT traffic transparently through the connected branches. Because EtherCAT timing can be handled by upstream devices on the primary trunk, the coupler operates with **no distributed clocks** of its own and does not introduce additional jitter. The module is **non-hot-swappable**, so power must be removed before insertion or removal to avoid interrupting the EtherCAT ring.

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The housing follows the mounting dimensions used by other EK modules, allowing aligned installation on the same DIN rail.

Specifications

Branch Order:	1->2->E-bus	**Dc Support Start:**	Rev -0017 / FW 01	**Distributed Clocks Required:**	No
Hot Swap:	No	**Junction Count:**	2	**Protection Class:**	IP20
Topology Use:	Star	**Unused Ports State:**	Junctions 1 And 2 Bridged	**Last Verified:**	11/22/2026 3:39 AM

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