McLean, VA/Dallas, TX... The MTConnect Institute and PDES, Inc. are pleased to announce a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) designed to further collaboration and cooperation on factory data standards. Both organizations recognize the importance of not only standardizing within a business function, but also across functional domains. The PDES connected digital enterprise vision depends on integrating standards through the entire value chain, and MTConnect in turn benefits from standardized data that is adjacent to its own domain-specific semantic vocabulary. However, neither organization can achieve their vision without interfacing to a variety of industry data standards.

Emergent best practices for building and deploying industrial data standards offer a unique opportunity to shape the future of manufacturing enterprise data management today. Even world-class companies struggle to wrangle critical data and avoid siloed operations. PDES and the MTConnect Institute share many stakeholders and contributors, and will work to progress the industry by:

- Cataloging and disseminating information on best practices for implementing data standards
- Developing existing standards toward a shared vision for model-based enterprise
- Identifying gaps where new standards development is needed and promoting that activity

“When enabling a model-based digital enterprise and digital twin, interoperability standards through the entire value stream are critical. The MTConnect Institute’s development of manufacturing technology data model standards and specifications enable standardized process data to be consumed by a wide variety of analytic solutions. These solution cover a range of use cases, such as machine monitoring (anomaly detection, utilization, OEE), lights-out manufacturing, dynamic job scheduling, process analytics (i.e., the process digital twin), and predictive maintenance. MTConnect is a key element in
realizing the digital enterprise. PDES is excited to work with the MTConnect Institute to harmonize and extend interoperability standards,” stated Brian Chiesi, General Manager of PDES, Inc.

Doug Woods, President of the MTConnect Institute, said “Harmonization with other standards is required for MTConnect to remain relevant as the industry pushes well beyond the use cases we imagined over a decade ago when the first version was released. We welcome the opportunity to push product data and device data standards closer together and give customers something they can use today.”

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PDES, Inc. is a participation-based consortium focused on the development and implementation of model-based standards to support the digital enterprise. Founded in 1988, the organization includes members from Industry, Government and Academia. More information can be found at https://pdesinc.org/

The MTConnect Institute (MTConnect), a subsidiary of AMT – The Association for Manufacturing Technology, is a standards developing organization working to foster greater interoperability between equipment automation/control applications, and field systems/devices in the manufacturing industry. MTConnect produces open technical standards and specifications as well as schema, prototype software examples, and related documentation to facilitate implementation of the MTConnect Specification in compliant applications, drivers, and other services.