

TIPS & TRICKS FOR THE INTEGRATION OF COBOTS



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- What to consider about after commissioning of a collaborative robot

WHO AM I AND WHO IS ACTEMIUM



- Civil engineering general mechanical engineering
- Almost 5 years, first job
- Branch manager focused on robotics/vision
- A love for horses, movies and cars



- Actemium = brand
- Network



Industrial Automation – robotics – machinery

14 BUSINESS UNITS 900 ENGINEERS AND TECHNICIANS € 110 million TURNOVER

COLLABORATIVE ROBOTIC: AN INTRODUCTION



 Safety Technologies: pressure sensitive skin, pressure-force-moment sensor in footbase or each axis
 Future? Infrared, temperature: non-contact

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COLLABORATIVE ROBOTIC: AN INTRODUCTION

Industrial Cobot: Some examples







Safety Technologies: Scanners

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- What is your motivation: Innovation, ergonomical, space limitation, repetitive work reduction for operators replacing operators : you might reconsider
- What is your budget: cobots often tend to be a bit more expensive

What is the desired degree of collaboration?

- Contact with robot? Fe hand guiding
- Contact with peripheral devices?
- Only passing through at close distant?

Also collaboration:



Is it possible to regularly stop your cobot or do you rely on a continuous process?

- How many times does the operator have to enter the robotic area?
- How long does it take
- Pre induced robot stop is possible without cobot with fe scanner

	0	1	2	3	4
Touching frequency (0 = never; 4 = continuous)				Х	
Passing frequency (0 = never; 4 = always at robot)				Х	
Passing distance ($0 = 3m$; $4 = 0m$)					Х
Desired Continuity of robot/machine line (0,4 = no stops allowed; 1 = some stops/slowing allowed; 2 = regular stops/slowing allowed; 3 = always stops/slowing allowed)			Х		
Picking/placing items in proximity robot toolcenter :frequency (0 = never; 4 = more than 10 times per hour)			х		
Operator handsfree (0, 1 = both hands free; 2,3,4 = both hands full)			х	Х	Х
Guideline of system	Conventional robot with fence	Conventional robot with fence And request and confirmation for organized robot stop	Conventional robot with safety controller in combination with safety scanner (or light curtains) for induced robot stops	Cobot with floor/safety scanner which can switch to fullspeed mode	Full Cobot

- What is the desired working speed? Or combination of cobotspeed and fullspeed? Magic 250 mm/s => otherwise at least 50 cm distance: additional safety requirements
- Are there any other machine speeds depending on this cobot cell? => perform a cycle time simulation on your cobot cell or ask your integrator
- Scanners have advantages, but also disadvantages
- What about peripheral devices and their safety?
- What is the robotic environment? (temperature, dust, humidity, cleanroom, food grade)

- Some inspiration for applications: accuracy, speed, simplicity and degree of collaboration
 - Quality detection
 - Gluing, foam or liquids application, dispensing, filling, poslishing, cleaning
 - Machine tending
 - Screwing: force-torque sensor or in-house
 - Assembly: force-torque sensor or in-house
 - Pick and place
- Is your operator ready for collaboration?
- Accept the fact that their might be additional costs due to pre-engineering



WHAT TO CONSIDER DURING DESIGN A COLLABORATIVE ROBOT

- Always perform a risk assessment!
- Noise-people can't hear the robot moving & may have to wear ear protection
 Visibility–mists/dust/smoke can impair people's ability to see robot motion in the workspace
- Area and environmental restriction –anything in the workspace between the human and robot has to be considered a crush/pinch/slip/trip hazard. Cables/items on the floor are trip hazards. Humidity or leaking glue also

S Tooling:

- Suction cups: safe but beware of edges/points/clenching
- Clamping: select a collaborative jaw gripper with force limiting but make sure your product doesn't fall: calculate
- Welding/gluing/filling: beware of temperatures/chemicals
- Pick and place: Payload: what if load falls off (for the heavier cobots)
- Take inertia into consideration for heavy payloads!



WHAT TO CONSIDER DURING DESIGN A COLLABORATIVE ROBOT

- Performance Impact: Tooling can end up heavier/slower & more expensive due to covers and additional safety equipment.
- Risk parameters: S Severity of injury, Frequency and/or duration of exposure to hazard, P Possibility of avoiding the hazard or limiting the damage (ISO 13849-1=machinery) (ISO 10218= industrial robots) (ISO/TS 15066 = Cobots)
- Clenching is also a danger!

Industrial robots:

Cyber security protection

S2 – F2 – P1 = Performance Level d

- If full robot mode alternation is desired; make sure operators can't just switch: password and hardware protection
- Ask a professionnal

WHAT TO CONSIDER ABOUT AFTER COMMISSIONING OF A COLLABORATIVE ROBOT

- Spare parts! Ask your integrator/supplier
- Programming knowledge: training or support
- Oon't just create a new recipe/program or tooling: EVERY change = new Risk Assessment

ACTEMIUM CAN HELP YOU WITH YOUR COBOT QUESTIONS



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