

Automating the World

Mitsubishi Electric partners with HAL Robotics to extend use of industrial robots in non-uniform applications

July 2024

Mitsubishi Electric has partnered with HAL Robotics to extend the rollout of operator-controlled industrial robots capable of executing variable, complex and uncommon tasks and applications.

Founded in 2014, HAL Robotics' recently launched 'decode' software was developed to give operators and those with expert process knowledge the ability to adapt robotic tasks without any programming.

Based on the HAL Robotics Framework, it gives systems integrators and robot users the means to set up complex robotic toolpaths, simulate and validate procedures, and automatically send programs to the robots for execution. As a result, 'decode' helps remove hard-to-automate, varied and laborious tasks that previously required constant human input.

HAL Robotics' partnership with Mitsubishi Electric means the software can now be integrated across the company's range of small-scale 6-axis MELFA industrial robots. This provides stakeholders from across industry the ability to automate non-uniform tasks without the extensive set-up and training investments normally associated with bespoke solutions.

Sebastian Andraos, CEO and Co-Founder of HAL Robotics comments: "Automation has traditionally been associated with repeatable applications. By contrast, many manufacturing tasks requiring intricate manipulation of parts and non-uniform results are often viewed as too complex to be carried out by industrial robots. Our 'decode' software aims to upend these assumptions.

"By giving operators the opportunity to rapidly influence and change processes to suit the nuances of individual applications, reliance on integrator input can be reduced. Our new partnership with Mitsubishi Electric will allow us to increase access to automation technologies and plug a skills gap often found on factory floors regardless of sector."

Barry Weller, Product Manager – Mechatronics at Mitsubishi Electric Automation Systems UK, comments: "The importance of HAL Robotics' 'decode' software cannot be underestimated. Allowing operators to more easily integrate their human experience and industry knowledge into key processes and non-uniform manufacturing will be key to improving end-user efficiency, especially given the skills shortage that continue to affect the manufacturing sector. We're looking forward to the future with HAL Robotics and excited to see how its 'decode' software will be implemented across multiple sectors."

For more information on HAL Robotics and Mitsubishi Electric's MELFA range of industrial robots, please visit hal-robotics.com and gb.mitsubishielectric.com/fa/products/rbt/robot

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About Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

With more than 100 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TOKYO: 6503) is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, energy, transportation and building equipment. Mitsubishi Electric enriches society with technology in the spirit of its "Changes for the Better." The company recorded a revenue of 5,257.9 billion yen (U.S.\$ 34.8 billion*) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2024. For more information, please visit www.MitsubishiElectric.com

*U.S. dollar amounts are translated from yen at the rate of ¥151=U.S.\$1, the approximate rate on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market on March 31, 2024.

About Mitsubishi Electric Factory Automation Business Group

Offering a vast range of automation and processing technologies, including controllers, drive products, power distribution and control products, electrical discharge machines, electron beam machines, laser processing machines, computerized numerical controllers, and industrial robots, Mitsubishi Electric helps bring higher productivity – and quality – to the factory floor. In addition, its extensive service networks around the globe provide direct communication and comprehensive support to customers. The global slogan "Automating the World" shows the company's approach to leverage automation for the betterment of society, through the

application of advanced technology, sharing know how and supporting customers as a trusted partner.

For more about the story behind "Automating the World" please visit: www.MitsubishiElectric.com/fa/about-us/automating-the-world

Factory Automation - UK

Mitsubishi Electric Europe, Industrial Automation – UK branch is located in Hatfield, United Kingdom. It is a part of the European Factory Automation Business Group based in Ratingen near Dusseldorf, Germany which in turn is part of Mitsubishi Electric Europe B.V. that has been represented in Germany since 1978, a wholly owned subsidiary of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Japan. The role of Factory Automation EMEA is to manage sales, service and support across its network of local branches and distributors throughout the EMEA region.

For more information, please visit automation@meuk.mee.com

About e-F@ctory

e-F@ctory is Mitsubishi Electric's integrated concept to build reliable and flexible manufacturing systems that enable users to achieve many of their high speed, information driven manufacturing aspirations. Through its partner solution activity, the e-F@ctory Alliance, and its work with open network associations such as the CC-Link Partners Association (CLPA), users can build comprehensive solutions based on a wide ranging "best in class" principle.

In summary, e-F@ctory and the e-F@ctory Alliance enable customers to achieve integrated manufacturing but still retain the ability to choose the most optimal suppliers and solutions.

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