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Press Release

automatica 2022

Future-ready production through robotics and automation

- **Smart factory ensures sustainable production**
- **Presentation of diverse new technology expected**
- **automatica Trend Index 2022 results are cause for optimism**

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How can global supply chains be made less vulnerable? How can we make production more sustainable and conserve resources? And how to implement a quick transition towards digital production so that the European economy will be powerful and fit for the future? Around 600 exhibitors from all over the world will provide answers to these questions and present solutions for the entire range of automation topics at automatica, the world's leading exhibition, which will be held in Munich from June 21 to 24.

The coronavirus pandemic has shown that the vulnerability of global logistics networks can bring industrial production to a standstill. A setback for prosperity – but also life-threatening when urgently needed drugs are in short supply. For this reason, efforts to establish reliable supply chains across Europe are in full swing. And the exhibitors at automatica will show that intelligently automated production interlinked by digital networks enables economical local production in Europe without risky dependencies.

Smart factory ensures sustainable production

Eliminating the need to transport components halfway around the globe is directly linked to another hot topic at automatica: sustainability. All top companies are currently working to become CO₂-neutral in the next few years. This can only be achieved through smart production lines based on artificial intelligence, which enable an unprecedented degree of flexibility. Robots, cobots, mobile robotic systems, and AGVs as part of a digital network will thus replace inflexible conveyor technology. This enables the conversion of production facilities from one product to another almost at the push of a button without the need to replace costly equipment. All thanks to the smart factory.

The automatica Trend Index 2022, commissioned by automatica, proves that manufacturing companies have long recognized the importance of robotics and automation for

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industrial transformation. The results of 100 surveyed specialists and executives who decide on the use of robotics and automation in the German industrial sector are clear in that respect.

Survey results are cause for optimism

The so-called Trend Index 2022 delivers a number of interesting insights. Two key results are particularly noteworthy: 82 percent of respondents believe that the use of robots in domestic production could compensate for supply bottlenecks. And just one percent less, 81 percent, believe that robots have the potential to mitigate labor shortages through increased automation – while preventing jobs from being outsourced abroad. Further analysis shows that these results are a plea for domestic production sites as well as for the relocation of production facilities back to Europe to achieve the overarching goal of making supply chains more resilient.

In addition, 85 percent of specialists and executives consider industrial robotics an opportunity for new business: It enables competitive production of green tech products such as solar panels, batteries for e-mobility, or CO₂-neutral heating systems in Germany or Europe. Therefore, Germany has good prospects to become a production hub – provided the country is prepared to invest in robotics.

Firework of technology expected

The need for automation makes the 2022 exhibition the most important automatica of all times. After the 2020 exhibition had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, and after four intense years of development, an unprecedented firework of technology is to be expected. AI components, easy-to-use cobots, self-learning robots, and pioneering programming tools – knowing the key components of tomorrow's production today will be a significant advantage. Thus, automatica comes with impeccable timing.

Further information is available online at <https://automatica-munich.com/en/>

About automatica

automatica is the world's leading marketplace for automated smart production. It is the trend setting event for companies from all industry sectors, providing access to innovations, knowledge, and trends with a high degree of business relevance. automatica focuses and shapes the transformation of industrial production – from automated to autonomous facilities. Messe München GmbH and VDMA Robotics + Automation, conceptual sponsor of the trade fair, are behind the industry-driven concept of automatica.

Messe München

Messe München is one of the leading exhibition organizers worldwide with more than 50 of its own trade shows for capital goods, consumer goods and new technologies. Every year, a total of over 50,000 exhibitors and around three million visitors take part in more than 200 events at the exhibition center in Munich, at the ICM – Internationales Congress Center München, the Conference Center Nord and the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München as well as abroad. Together with its subsidiary companies, Messe München organizes trade shows in China, India, Brazil, South Africa and Turkey. With a network of associated companies in Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America, and with around 70 representatives abroad for more than 100 countries, Messe München has a truly global presence.