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Press Release

automatica Trend Index 2018

83 Percent of Brits Want Robots To Do The Dirty Work

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Industrial robot installations in the UK increased for the third year in a row to around 2,300 units ([IFR World Robotics Report 2018](#)). This is an increase of 31 percent (2016 - 2017). Asked about the workplace of the future, UK employees want robots to take over the unhealthy (83 percent), hazardous (77 percent) or monotonous (72 percent) jobs. These are the findings of the [automatica Trend Index](#). In the UK, 1,000 employees were interviewed by a market research institute on behalf of [automatica](#), the world's leading trade fair for robotics and automation.

The majority of workers in the UK not only want robots to take over the dirty, dull and dangerous work: About 70 percent think that robots give people the chance to learn more qualified work and create more opportunities for education and training.

Asked about the level of maturity, 40 percent of working people report, that training for the digital world has already been successfully established by their employer. But only 6 percent think such initiatives have reached a level of excellence.

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Press Release | February 13, 2019 | 2/2

Human-robot teams

At the same time, people welcome the idea to join forces at the workplace of the future by working in human-robot teams.

68 percent think that working hand in hand with robots without safety fences will improve manufacturing. The reason for that: Human talents such as judgement and fine motor skills will be combined with those of robots e.g. force and precision.

UK to become more competitive

70 percent say that human-machine collaboration will make UK companies more competitive. 52 percent say that digitization and robotics will bring back jobs that were previously located abroad. A strong impact will come from reducing costs in production (73 percent) and providing better quality for products and services (68 percent).

The latest data of the International Federation of Robotics show, that robot density in the United Kingdom matches the global average of 85 industrial robots per 10,000 employees installed in the manufacturing industry. This ranks the country 15th in Europe and 22nd in the world.

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For the automatica Trend Index 2018, a total of 7,000 employees, in the US (N = 1,000), China (N = 1,000), Japan (N = 1,000), Germany (N = 1,000), France (N = 1,000), Great

Press Release | February 13, 2019 | 3/3

Britain (N = 1,000) and Italy (N = 1,000) were interviewed in a representative survey of the population in January 2018 by a market research institute (online panel) on how robots and digitization are changing the working world.

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Press Release | February 13, 2019 | 4/4

About automatica

[automatica](#) is an international trade fair for robotics and automation and the central meeting point for manufacturers and users of integrated assembly solutions, robotics, industrial machine vision and professional service robotics. With the Trend-setting topics digital transformation in manufacturing, human-robot collaboration and service robotics, automatica makes an important contribution to designing Work 4.0 at places where people bear more responsibility than ever before. At the last event in 2018, a total of 890 exhibitors from 29 countries presented their products and solutions; 45.584 visitors from more than 89 countries came to the Munich trade fair. Messe München GmbH and VDMA Robotics + Automation, conceptual sponsor of the trade fair, are behind the industry-driven concept of automatica. automatica takes place every two years. The next fair will be in Munich on June 16 to 19, 2020.

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 and the MOC Veranstaltungszentrum München as well as abroad. Together with its subsidiary companies, Messe München organizes trade shows in China, India, Brazil, Russia, Turkey, South Africa, Nigeria, Vietnam and Iran. With a network of associated companies in Europe, Asia, Africa and South America as well as around 70 representations abroad for over 100 countries, Messe München has a global presence.

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