

Small & cost-effective: igus displays low-cost robot arm in a compact design

Thanks to the integrated control system, robolink can now also be operated independent of the switch cabinet and PC

Cost-effective automation of simple tasks is the aim of the igus robolink product range. At the 2017 SPS IPC Drives, igus presented a new, very compact version. The control system is located at the base of the gripper arm and makes an additional switch cabinet and the permanent connection to the PC superfluous. The robot arm including control system is available from €4,723.

The new robolink solution, which the motion plastics specialist presented at the 2017 SPS IPC Drives, is a complete 4 or 5-axis robot in which a control unit from Commonplace Robotics GmbH (CPR) is integrated at the base of the robot arm. The robolink is moved via four or five motor controllers. This saves space and makes the robot arm even more flexible during transport or for a quick adaptation of the automation process. The modular CPR control system supplements robolink with service-friendly electronics and intuitive control software that can be used to display and program the robot's movement sequences. For example, programs can be created using Joint, Linear, DigitalOut, Loop, or If-Then-Else commands. Further components, such as image processing systems, can be integrated via plugins. The software is supplied on CD, so that only a Windows-capable computer is required for commissioning. The stand-alone solution dispenses with the otherwise obligatory PC connection after installation and can be operated with a touch display. The control system can also communicate with other controllers via inputs and outputs. The complete system is available from € 4,723 including control system; the control unit can be ordered directly from Commonplace Robotics.

The robolink modular system offers a high degree of flexibility

Simple processes can be automated cost-effectively with the robolink modular system. These include pick & place applications in order picking, feeding, quality assurance, assembly tasks or image processing applications. Thanks to the

modular system, robolink can be easily adapted to a wide variety of applications. In addition to a preassembled articulated arm made of joints with a wide range of gears, motors and connector modules, users can also put together individual systems. In addition, compatible grippers and lifting vacuums are available, for example from Schunk or MM Engineering. The robolink Designer supports the configuration on the Internet (www.igus.eu/robolink-designer). The software can also be used on a tablet, allowing, among other things, a visual simulation of movements by the rotating joints as well as a subsequent placement of order.

Caption:



Picture PM6617-1

Everything inside and very small: in the new robolink version, all the electronics are in the base and the arm is operated without a switch box and PC. (Source: igus GmbH)

PRESS CONTACT:

Oliver Cyrus
Head of Media and Advertising

igus[®] GmbH
Spicher Strasse 1a
51147 Cologne
Tel. 0 22 03 / 96 49-459
Fax +49 22 03 / 96 49-631
ocyrus@igus.de
www.igus.de/de/presse

ABOUT IGUS:

igus GmbH is a globally leading manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The Cologne-based family business has offices in 35 countries and employs 3.180 people around the world. In 2016, igus generated a turnover of 592 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

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