

## ABB at iRex 2015 | the future of robots and humans working together

Tokyo, December 3, 2015

Growth in the robotics industry continues to be explosive. Since the installation of the first industrial robot more than 40 years ago, the industry has continuously expanded into new markets and developed new applications. Yet ABB Robotics truly believes that this is only the beginning and that the best is yet to come.

“Collaboration, Simplification and Integrated Solutions best describe what we believe are the main drivers to propel us into the future,” says Per Vegard Nersteth, Managing Director, ABB Robotics. “Recent growth has been characterized by-developments in markets such as Asia where the strong demand for robotic solutions in segments such as consumer electronics has driven the industry to the next level. Today, however, it is clear that a new generation of collaborative robots is stretching the boundaries of robotic automation by redefining the types of industrial processes which can be automated; this will create yet more demand for our rapidly growing industry and we at ABB are proud to have contributed to this with the recent introduction of the world’s first truly collaborative robot, YuMi®.

Human robot collaboration also signifies simplification as it ushers in a new breed of robots that can easily be integrated into real-world manufacturing settings in facilities of all shapes and sizes. Gone are the barriers and cages that traditionally separated humans and robots; in their place come robots which are easy to deploy, install and can be programmed intuitively, by anyone. Such robots are set to become an essential part of the integrated ecosystem that we have come to call the Internet of Things, Services and People.

The robotics industry is extremely dynamic and continually changing, and the future possibilities for people and robots collaborate together on entirely new automation applications is an exciting part of this change. ABB Robotics is proud to have been at the forefront of the development of the world’s first industrial robots and looks forward to playing a leading role in the next phase of the industry’s growth story.

As demographics change around the world, and standards of living across the planet rise, people will increasingly seek the jobs that are mentally rewarding and less physically demanding. In response to these exciting changes, ABB Robotics introduced one of its most important products in recent years: YuMi, the world’s first truly collaborative robot. A play on words, YuMi means “you” and “me” creating an automated future together.

At iRex 2015 ABB Robotics will take the opportunity to present its vision for human-robot collaboration, including a real-world commercial project featuring the YuMi dual arm robot, and a new concept for a single arm collaborative robot designed to serve both-Automotive and-General Industry markets. We also see significant potential-in the professional service robotics area where new applications are starting to take-off.

Further information for editors:

ABB Robotics is a leading supplier of industrial robots - also providing robot software, peripheral equipment, modular manufacturing cells and service for tasks such as welding, handling, assembly, painting and finishing, picking, packing, palletizing and machine tending. Key markets include automotive, plastics, metal fabrication, foundry, electronics, machine tools, pharmaceutical and food and beverage industries. A strong solutions focus helps manufacturers improve productivity, product quality and worker safety. ABB has installed more than 250,000 robots worldwide.

All ABB Robotics' products are fully supported by the ABB Robotics' global sales and service organization in 53 countries and over 100 locations.

Visit [www.abb.com/robotics](http://www.abb.com/robotics) for further information.

For more information please contact:

ABB Inc.

Nicole Salas

Product Communications Manager

[nicole.salas@se.abb.com](mailto:nicole.salas@se.abb.com)