

## ABB launches new small robot for flexible and compact production.

**Robot range is expanded to enable more manufactures to realize the benefits of robot technology.**

ABB has launched its smallest ever multipurpose industrial robot, the compact, agile and lightweight six-axis IRB 120. Available with a new compact version of the popular IRC5 controller, the robot weighs just 25kg and can handle a payload of 3kg (4kg with vertical wrist) with a reach of 580mm.

ABB's new small robot offers all the functionality and expertise of the ABB range in a much smaller package, helping to reduce the footprint of robotic cells. Its size, combined with its lightweight design, makes the IRB 120 a cost-effective and reliable choice for generating high production outputs in return for a minimal investment.

The new model also has a best in class stroke of 411mm and the ability to reach 112mm below its own base. Ideal for a wide range of industries, including the electronics, food and beverage, machinery, solar, pharmaceutical, medical and research sectors, the IRB 120 is the perfect building block to introduce cost effective applications for handling and assembly of small parts – especially where space is at a premium.

To help reduce the footprint of robotic technology, the IRB 120 can be mounted at any angle, either in a cell, on top of a machine or close to other robots on the manufacturing line. The compact turning radius on axis 1 ensures the robot can be mounted in close proximity to its application.

Further enhancing its ability to improve productivity, the IRB 120's motion control and best in class path accuracy are supported through the advanced dynamic modelling of the IRC5 Compact controller featuring QuickMove & TrueMove motion control software. Using the new Compact controller with the IRB 120 ensures predictable, high-performance robot motion combined with a speed independent path.

The IRC5 Compact extends the comprehensive IRC5 control family bringing all the benefits of the world leading robot controller. This includes superior path motion, user friendly FlexPendant programming, flexible RAPID language and powerful communication capabilities; and now all with a minimized footprint. In a second phase, the IRC5 Compact controller is scheduled to be released for other ABB robots such as the IRB 140 and IRB 360 Flexpicker, throughout 2010.

In addition to the obvious space saving benefits the Compact controller also enables easy commissioning through the one-phase power input, external connectors for all signals and a built in expandable 16 in, 16 out, I/O system. The system also supports the use of RobotStudio for offline programming and Remote Service for on-line condition monitoring. This allows manufacturers and integrators to optimize cell design and helps prevent costly downtime or delays to production.

Speaking about the new agile and compact robot, Nicolas De Keijser, Product Manager for ABB's small robots, comments, "In the development of our fourth-generation series of multipurpose robots, we recognised a demand for a fast and compact robot that could still offer consistent high performance. By supporting the consumer, electronics, solar and medical sectors, we are also expanding our product portfolio which will help more manufacturers realise the benefits available from robotic technology."

The new robot and controller are fully supported by the ABB Robotics global sales and service organization in 49 countries and over 100 locations. Visit [www.abb.com/robotics](http://www.abb.com/robotics) for further information.

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# Press Release



## **Further information for editors.**

ABB ([www.abb.com](http://www.abb.com)) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve their performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 120,000 people.

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 160,000 robots worldwide.

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