

ABB introduces a new generation of workpiece positioners

ABB Robotics raises the bar once again for the workpiece positioners used in robotic applications as it introduces nine new and improved models to take on heavier parts and manipulate them with greater accuracy than ever before.

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ABB has released a new generation of workpiece positioners for robotic applications with improved load capacities and best-in-class motion control. The full range consists of nine models with load capacities ranging from 250 kg up to 5,000 kg. For the two most popular positioners, the IRBP K and the IRBP R the load capacities have been increased to 1,000 kg. These reliable, robust positioners are designed for manipulating workpieces during applications such as arc welding and thermal cutting.

Each of the positioner's axes are fully coordinated with the robot during programming and operation. Employing the same drive systems and software as the robot, the positioners are very easy to use and have clear, simple instructions for programming. As the positioners operate, the robot system automatically optimizes speed and performance by taking advantage of maximum acceleration.

Shorter cycle times

The new range of workpiece positioners allows cycle times to be kept to a minimum with dynamic modeling software. The dynamic model automatically compensates for the effects of gravity, inertia and friction. The built-in Load Identification function (LOAD ID) calculates both the center of gravity and the inertia of the workpiece and fixture. These calculations ensure fast movements with rapid acceleration, re-orientation and accuracy when following programmed paths.

Service-friendly

ABB workpiece positioners can also be supplied with all necessary safety equipment - and with a modular design and just a few robust moving parts, these service-friendly positioners require very little maintenance.

About ABB

ABB (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 117,000 people.

About ABB Robotics

ABB Robotics (www.abb.com/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, pharmaceutical and food and beverage industries. A strong customer focus helps manufacturers improve productivity, product quality and worker safety. ABB has installed more than 175,000 robots worldwide.

Visit www.abb.com/robotics for further information or **contact:**

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