User-centric solutions for a flexible and modular manufacturing in small and medium-sized shipyard

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High-payload robots in shared space with humans

Stavros Giartzas Research Engineer LMS - Laboratory for Manufacturing Systems and Automation 14th November 2024

4th Workshop - AIMEN Technology Center, Spain





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The technology



High Payload Robot Testbench in BIS premises







This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101006798



- Digital Twin
- Perception systems for part and seam detection
- Workspace monitoring
- Autonomous robot welding
- Seamless AR robot programming interface
- Manual Guidance













Manual Guidance

• Force/Torque based control of robot' Operator manipulates robot's end-effector in the desired pose





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Process perception module for bin picking operations

- CAD independent part detection
- Center of gravity (CoG) identification
- Grasping point identification to command the robot grasp the part







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AR Robot Programming interface and perception system for seam detection

- Smart Pen and AR glasses for robot path/pose teaching
- No-expert programmers
- Perception systems for the correction of the trajectory

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The demonstration in the shipyard

High-payload robots in shared space with humans

Scenario Description

- The robot uses a machine vision system to detect parts to be picked
- The robot picks and manipulates the heavy sheets and roughly positions them in place
- The operator guides the robot to the final position
- The operator tack welds the sheet to free up the robot
- The operator teaches the welding seam using the smart pen
- A perception system detects the welding seam and corrects the robot's trajectory
- The **robot fully welds** the sheet in place

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Watch the video of High-payload robots in shared space with humans

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The impact for the shipbuilding industry

The impact for the shipbuilding industry

Results

- The average cycle time for all variants are approximately at 5:51(4:22 without the calculation times)
- The average RULA for the solution are:
 - Manual Guidance: 3
 - Robot teaching: 4
- The mean system usability score is : 64

The impact for the shipbuilding industry

- Reduction of operator busy time by ≈ 67% (7:00 without HRC 2:18 with HRC)
- Reduction of robot programming time for welding paths by ≈ 90% (≈ 7 min by an expert in robotics to 40 secs by a non-expert)
- Reduction of 4 RULA points in the manipulation and positioning of the parts (3 for the Manual Guidance 7 for the operator manual carried the part)

Thank you!

Catalogue of technologies

Stavros Giartzas | Research Engineer giartzas@lms.mech.upatras.gr| +30 2610910160

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