

Paris Air Show: KUKA and the CEA announce their technological partnership on the Cobomanip

Paris, June 21st, 2023 - For this 54th edition of Le Bourget Paris Airshow, KUKA and CEA are announcing their technological partnership around Paris Air Show Cobomanip, a load manipulator (cobot) combining high precision and force feed-back.

The result of 10 years' research at the CEA's List digital institute, Cobomanip provides physical assistance to operators during the precise handling of large loads in complex environments. This cobot enables very high-precision positioning (to within a tenth of a millimeter) of parts weighing up to 125 kg, while managing guidance and collision avoidance¹.

These features make Cobomanip a cobotic solution without equal on the market, addressing the needs of the aeronautics sector: precise load handling, operator safety, prevention of musculoskeletal disorders.

In this partnership, KUKA brings its knowledge and understanding of the industry to bear in deploying the right solution to meet production constraints.

The collaboration between the CEA and KUKA will enable the development of new products and uses for the benefit of manufacturers. While the primary market is the aerospace industry, the entire manufacturing sector could benefit.

Philippe Prat, CEO of KUKA Systems Aerospace, points out that « *the need for flexibility and precision makes it difficult to robotize aeronautical tasks. Cobomanip makes it possible to support increased production rates with precise and ergonomic assisted handling* ».

For Alexandre Bounouh, Director of the CEA's List Institute, « *the CEA is committed to the development of high-performance cobots, which, combined with other technological building blocks such as digital twins, represent a vector for competitiveness and improved quality of working life. This new collaboration with KUKA, one of the world's leading players in robotics, is a perfect fit with our ambition to help strengthen France's industrial fabric* ».



Application of Cobomanip to the handling of aeronautical structures
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¹ Within a range of 3.7 m



About KUKA

KUKA is a global automation corporation with sales of around 4 billion euro and around 15,000 employees. The company is headquartered in Augsburg, Germany. As one of the world's leading suppliers of intelligent automation solutions, KUKA offers customers everything they need from a single source. From robots and cells to fully automated systems and their connectivity in markets such as automotive with a focus on e-mobility & battery, electronics, metal & plastic, consumer goods, e-commerce, retail and healthcare.

About CEA

The CEA informs public decision-making and provides concrete scientific and technological solutions to companies and local authorities in key areas for society: energy and digital transitions, healthcare of the future, defense and global security.

As one of the world's top 100 innovation players (Clarivate 2022), the CEA is a catalyst and gas pedal of innovation for French industry. It enhances the competitiveness of companies in all sectors through the creation of high-performance, differentiating products, and provides innovative solutions to shed light on changes in our society. The CEA deploys this dynamic in all regions of France, supporting its local partners in their innovation initiatives and thus contributing to the creation of lasting value and jobs in the region, as close as possible to the needs of industry. At the same time, it supports the development of its 215 startups, agile vectors for transferring know-how and disruptive technologies from the laboratories.

To find out more: www.cea.fr

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