

# NEWS RELEASE



16 August 2010 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## BARA announces a 55% growth in UK robot sales

A recent robot sales comparison report carried out by BARA, the British Automation and Robotics Association, shows that in the first two quarters of 2010 UK robot sales have substantially grown by 55% on 2009 figures. This growth is the first of its kind since 2006 and figures suggest that it will continue to accelerate throughout 2010.

BARA represents over 40 suppliers in the field of robotics and automation and asks each member to provide a breakdown of their robot sales on a quarterly basis which are then incorporated into a regular comparisons report.

Significantly, the report has shown that there have been some major changes in the sectors buying robots and applications for which they are being used. In 2010, when compared to 2006, sales of robots to automotive component suppliers showed a large fall (66%) which has in turn impacted sales of robots for arc welding applications (down by 82%). Interestingly, the report identifies two large growth areas: food and drink (a 172% growth since 2006); and pharmaceutical, medical and healthcare (a 194% growth since 2006). These are now major sectors for robot applications in the UK and it will be interesting to see if the trend continues throughout the rest of this year.

Although the figures have injected some optimism into the industry, Mike Wilson President of BARA, has one note of caution: "The growth both overall and in the newer sectors is very encouraging, but the UK's robot sales are still well behind other countries who are also achieving significant growth rates in 2010."

### **For further information please contact:-**

*Mike Wilson, President BARA (British Automation and Robot Association)*

E [robots@hotmail.com](mailto:robots@hotmail.com)

T +44 (0)7812 766639

*Kirsty Sharpe, PR agent for BARA*

E [kirstysharp.ppma@virgin.net](mailto:kirstysharp.ppma@virgin.net)

T +44 (0)1920 821873

### **NOTES:-**

**BARA 'The Voice of Automation'**. BARA (British Automation and Robotics Association) provides a voice for the robotics and automation industries, when dealing with government, industry, financial and academic institutions. Since 1979 the aim of the BARA has been to promote the use of, and assist in the development of Automation in British industry. The Association has over 40 robotics and automation members. In February 2009 BARA amalgamated with the PPMA and the two organisations, along with the UKIVA and PMMDA share a common CEO, Executive and administration resource.

The **PPMA** (Processing and Packaging Machinery Association) has been the UK's trade association since 1988 for suppliers of processing and packaging machinery to the UK market and represents over 400 member companies. Its principle objective is to promote sales of machinery, both at home and abroad, through various projects and services of mutual benefit to both members and their customers by providing free technical and machinery information and advice.

