

## **~ TM Robotics also set to show large capacity handling, assembly and palletising robot ~**

Motek, September 24 – 27, 2007, The New Trade Fair Centre, Stuttgart, Hall 1, Stand 1229

TM Robotics and Toshiba Machine, the manufacturer of industrial robots, will be exhibiting ceiling mounted assembly and handling robots as well as a palletising SCARA Robot at this year's Motek show. The robots' functionality will be enhanced using a Sony Scorpion smart camera and an advanced conveyor tracking system.

The ceiling mounted robot, designated the TH450, saves space in the manufacturing cell by allowing access to the working area from above. It is amongst the quickest SCARA robots of its size on the market, achieving cycle times of less than 0.3 seconds. An arm length of 450mm and a payload of 5kg complement the TH450's enhanced speed capability while repeatability is an impressive  $\pm 0.01$ mm. The robot's controller also features a built in PLC, allowing for complete system control.

The TH450 will be communicating with a Sony Scorpion smart camera, provided by Scorpion Vision Ltd in the UK. The system consists of a rugged, industrial vision CCD (charge coupled device) camera, featuring an in-built PC and using Scorpion open software. The latter is founded on a standard Windows 2000 / XP PC platform – making it simple to use and scalable.

The ceiling mounted TH450 will be using an innovative conveyor and vision tracking system, which demonstrates not only the function of tracking items as they move along a conveyor, but also the robot's ability to determine the parts' orientation and discriminate between different products. With the new conveyor tracking system it is possible to construct an inexpensive and high speed line using existing industrial vision sensors, linked via industry-standard Ethernet. The robots' movements can be interpolated to the conveyors direction and speed; therefore products can be picked without ever needing to stop the conveyor. The system has also been designed for multiple conveyors – for example, the conveyor tracking synchronisation can be executed on one conveyor for picking a part and then synchronized to a second conveyor for placing the part.

The larger palletising SCARA robot on display has a reach of 1,050mm, which, together with a maximum payload capacity of 20kg, makes the TH1050 one of the most versatile machines in its class. The robot is also suitable for a variety of manufacturing applications and other key features include high operating speeds with maximum z-axis linear and rotational speeds of 2,000mm/s and 1,147°/s respectively. Like other models in the TH range, it offers an exceptionally large working envelope of 320°, maximising its functionality in the robot cell.

Words: 443

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