

KUKA STRENGTHENS ITS UK TEAM

KUKA Automation + Robotics has boosted its sales, marketing and technical support team with a series of new appointments which follow the completion of the latest phase of a multi-million pound expansion programme.

KUKA has opened a new 2,260 sq ft factory near its headquarters in Hereward Rise, Halesowen, in order to meet the huge growth in demand for robots, especially from the aerospace industry.

Among the new faces at the established supplier of industrial robots and automated production systems are Richard Goodwin, who has joined as a robot sales specialist, and Jane Thompson, the company's new sales and marketing co-ordinator.

Richard, who lives in Shifnal and has been involved in selling bespoke capital equipment and tooling for 17 years, will be responsible for sales in the automotive, machine tool and foundry sectors. Jane, from Halesowen, has a degree in corporate communications and brings extensive marketing experience to her new role. She previously worked in the marketing department at Birmingham-based pub operator Mitchells and Butlers.

Alan Oakley, from Shrewsbury, has moved from his position as training manager to take up the new role of applications engineer, providing technical support to the UK sales team. He has more than two decades' experience in the robotics industry. Robot engineer Kevin Amos, of Halesowen, is KUKA's new training manager. He has worked in the automation industry for 14 years with the last 8 years in a training role.

Completing the team is European studies graduate Melanie Kirchoff who is working on UK sales and marketing projects as part of KUKA's international internship programme. Melanie is gaining valuable work experience before returning to Germany in the autumn.

KUKA Automation + Robotics supplies a comprehensive range of robots with payload capacities from 3Kg – 1000Kg. Further details are available online at www.kuka.co.uk or email sales@kuka.co.uk.



Photo caption (l to r): Richard Goodwin, Jane Thompson, Alan Oakley, Melanie Kirchoff and Kevin Amos.