Thinking about manufacturing automation?

Three paths to implementation success.

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Thinking about manufacturing automation – Book 5 – Three paths to implementation success

A realistic plan drives success.

Until recently, industrial automation required teams of dedicated expert programmers and application engineers, placing it out of the reach for many businesses.

Collaborative robots (cobots) offer game-changing simplicity for robotic automation. They can be programmed to operate manual processes across many industries and can integrate into larger purpose-built automation systems. Cobots are easy to move, flexible and – following a risk assessment – are designed to work safely alongside humans. They take industrial automation to a completely different league. And you can decide how much support you want in the process.

A realistic implementation plan is the key to success. So let’s look at your options.
A full continuum of options to ensure your success.

Cobots from Universal Robots (UR) are programmed using a touchpad with programming software designed to be far simpler than controlling a traditional industrial robot. Our free software PolyScope contains a high-level programming interface designed for use by existing frontline manufacturing workers. UR offers the ability to physically guide the cobot arm through your processes while PolyScope records these movements and saves your program for further inputs.

However, we all know that ‘intuitive use’ is a term relative to the nature of business, processes and personnel. That’s why Universal Robots provides a full continuum of implementation support options to get automation working effectively in your environment.

1. Introductory online courses
2. In-person training
3. Partner expertise
Option

#1

Get started with our free online essential training.

Thousands of UR customers have achieved deployment independently, quickly getting their cobot running to full production speed. If your employees are confident with cobot technology and need the cobot for common processes, they’ll probably feel comfortable taking our free online training, pulling our cobot out of the box and experimenting with it. Our essential online courses take less than half a day to complete.

This strategy can work very well if you are automating a simple process and can dedicate some staff time to training and installation. It can be very motivating for employees to be given an opportunity like this.

On the sanding operation, we had an elderly operator, and it’s a lot of muscle to sand a part by hand. On his own, after he’d gone through some basic training at the UR Academy, he picked up the pendant and started to program it to sand the part. I tell you, I’ve never been more proud to see one of our employees learn a brand new technology that could improve his skills and his whole lifestyle.

Gary Kuzmin
All Axis Machining, Texas, USA
Option #2

Access further world-class training to support implementation.

Want to install greater confidence or use your cobot for more complex jobs? Take advantage of the world-class courses available through UR Academy. Our instructor-led online or in-class modules equip your employees to program cobots for your specific business needs with confidence, progressing from beginner to confident robot technician. Our courses offer your staff a great opportunity for professional development.

Once they’ve completed the training, your employees will be ready to learn to implement advanced cobot applications. Experienced employees can use information on the UR support website to add sophisticated programming and interfaces for specific application needs. This is a great way to upskill employees while improving production capacity. The core class is for both those new to robotics and experienced robot engineers. We also offer continued classes for further advancement with our cobots.

All classes are run by certified trainers and participants receive a certificate upon completion.

Explore the UR Academy course offering here.
Leverage an expert.

Option #3

We engaged a local company, Design Energy, who is a distributor of Universal Robots, to help the guys understand how to further advance the UR5 cobot on the platform, so they helped us with advanced training. Both the automation engineers that are using the cobot are now making a huge difference in terms of the fabrications we are deploying.

Marc Simkin
Assa Abloy, New Zealand

Hear from Assa Abloy about their successful implementation.

If you have complex implementation needs or require additional help after your cobot is set up, we recommend you consult your local Universal Robots distributor, a certified training partner/Universal Robots Academy, or a system integrator. In any case, your distributor will always be able to direct you to the right partner. This will ensure a smooth start on your cobot journey and help you realize the full benefits of automation more quickly.

When to use which partner:

- Our global distributor network is your closest partner, always ready to support you and direct you to the best fitting specialist.
- Our certified training partners are skilled cobot instructors who can help you and your team to continuously leverage your cobot skill set. You can also attend training with an instructor from a Universal Robots facility. Training is always very useful, but especially if you integrate the cobot yourself, we recommend you get certified training.
- Our system integrators can assist you in various aspects of the integration process. They can be used as consultants, co-integrating the cobot together with you, or they can offer you full-service, turnkey solutions, implementing the cobot for you completely.

See our selection on trainings here.
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Ready to explore an automation solution?

Cobots are an ideal option for almost any manufacturer because there’s such a broad range of implementation support options. Find out more about how you can take control of your own destiny, upskill your employees, and compete effectively using cobot automation.

About Universal Robots

Universal Robots aims to empower change in the way work is done using its leading-edge robotics platform.

Since introducing the world’s first commercially viable collaborative robot (cobot) in 2008, UR has developed a product portfolio including the UR3e, UR5e, UR10e, and UR16e, reflecting a range of reaches and payloads. Each model is supported by a wide range of end-effectors, software, accessories and application kits in the UR+ ecosystem. This allows the cobots to be used across a wide range of industries and means that they can be flexibly redeployed across diverse tasks.

The company, which is part of Teradyne Inc., is headquartered in Odense, Denmark and has offices in the USA, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, the Czech Republic, Romania, Russia, Turkey, China, India, Japan, South Korea and Mexico.

Universal Robots has installed over 50,000 cobots worldwide.

For more information, please visit www.universal-robots.com