

People in the Smart Factory: Strong on their own. Unbeatable as a team



What is the role of analog humans in digital factories? It is an important one – as the special show by VDMA Robotics + Automation suggested. The interaction between humans and machines will increase in the future to achieve a whole new level of performance.

It is human dexterity combined with digital assistance systems that will enable the required zero-defect quality in manual assembly processes for the first time. Technology will be worn on the body: in form of a communicating wristband or augmented reality glasses. Humans and machines will communicate intuitively. Workplaces will become more ergonomic and attractive than ever before – including those in your company.

Example exhibit: the smart **work glove** by ProGlove. Its integrated bar code scanner was specifically designed for the requirements of production and logistics. The **assistance system** “Schlauer Klaus” (Smart Klaus) by Optimum datamanagement solutions uses digital guidance and machine vision to achieve zero defects and productivity increases of 20%.

Kinemic presented a **wristband** that can be used to control applications and processes through gestures, while the Chairless Chair **exoskeleton** by Noonee provided a mobile seat. The assembly **assistance system** Active Assist by Bosch Rexroth improves process reliability; the **mobile learning platform** MLS by the Foundation for Young Mechanical Engineering Talent supports mechanical engineering trainees; and the **YuMi Robot** by ABB showed how man and machine can literally work hand in hand.

Transition Technologies supported workers with **augmented reality**. Ijsfontein and Wegesrand used **gamification** to explain technology use.

Topics of the Special Show were

- Assistance Systems

- Human-Robot Collaboration
 - Intuitive Communication and “Social Robotics”
 - Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality
 - Wearables and Handhelds
 - Gamification
 - Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning
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Further information

- [Work 4.0—Focus on the Workforce](#)
 - [automatica Trending Topic—Work 4.0](#)
 - [automatica Trending Topic—Human-Robot Collaboration](#)
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