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340 participants at European Robotics Forum

On April 6-8 the annual European Robotics Forum took place in Västerås, Sweden. The event attracted close to 340 robotics researchers and robot developers from 26 countries. The forum was characterized by a strong agreement and openness to extended cooperation between academia and industry to further strengthen the development of European robotics. Robotdalen hosted the event.

- Robotdalen is one of the leading robotics initiatives when it comes to enabling commercial success of ideas and research within robotics and automation. We have an impressive track record when it comes to generating new products and companies, says Erik Lundqvist, General Manager for the Swedish robotics initiative Robotdalen. Many of the participants at the European Robotics Forum perceived us as a neutral platform for cooperation with partners from the same business sector or field of research, which is exactly the role we want to play. We very much look forward to participate in creating such new co-operations.



Cooperation and awareness key factors

In a number of workshops and seminars prominent robotics researchers and developers shared their knowledge with other key players in the field. Meeting new business and research contacts is an essential part of the event. At the exhibition 22 companies participated to present their new products and innovations. Among them were companies like KUKA, Shadow Robots and ABB, to mention a few. Several products that stem from Robotdalen projects were also displayed; such as the bin-picking solution SensActive, the surveillance robot Rotundus and RobCab - an autonomous, mobile robot that transports cargo and pulls carts in hospitals and similar environments, safely maneuvering around people.

The European Robotics Forum is a joint annual conference organized by EUROP (European Robotics Technology Platform) and EURON (European Robotics Research Network).

- One of the major goals for the European Robotics Forum is to create awareness - the academia must become better at meeting industrial needs and the industry must become more aware of the robotics research already underway, says Mr Bernd Liepert, president for EUROP and CTO at KUKA AG. The European Robotics Forum offers a unique opportunity to meet, discuss and share ideas about the development of the European robotics industry and its community.

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Robotdalen is a Swedish robotics initiative with the mission to enable commercial success of new ideas and research within robotics & automation

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