

**PRESS RELEASE
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Robotics goes Lean: Making Robotic Cells Accountable for Efficiency, Productivity and Quality on the Factory Floor

Robotiq brings lean practices to the design, integration and operation of robotic cells on the factory floor.

Québec City, Canada, September 11, 2017 – Robotiq launches a new methodology, tools and product suite to design, integrate and operate robotic cells on the factory floor.

With Lean Robotics, the focus is not only on the production cell once it is in operation, but also on the design and integration stages.

“Collaborative robots allow manufacturing engineers to do design and integration on their own. This flexibility has made robots accessible to all factories, even those with high-mix production,” says Robotiq CEO Samuel Bouchard. “Many manufacturers implement a do-it-yourself vision which can create delays or longer planning steps in collaborative robot projects, because engineers need to figure out how to make their process work with the robot or which applications they can be applied to. All the while, another factory may already have found the answer previously and knowledge could be shared.”

“People get excited about a second wasted of takt time on the line, but tend to be inefficient in the integration process, delaying deployment for a month, even more,” says Bouchard. “A month is 43,200 seconds. Because something isn’t a manual task does not mean we should not strive to reduce waste. In fact the leverage is much bigger!”

Lean Robotics is a project management framework inspired by Lean Manufacturing, which has been used by best in class factories all over the world for the last 50 years. “Lean Robotics extends the principles of efficiency and waste reduction to the robotics integration project itself,” explains Samuel Bouchard, CEO of Robotiq. The Lean Robotics project management framework guides manufacturers to increase efficiency into defining their needs, identifying parts needed, and moving the robotic cells to production quickly.

While the book “The Rise of Lean Robotics” outlines the methodology and its use in manufacturing, the website leanrobotics.com offers additional resources, a blog, and a community for manufacturers to work with their peers and move projects forward.

Lean Robotics offers a common language to define and deploy robotic integrations, anchored in the manufacturer reality, using tools that manufacturers already apply and use today. “In the collaborative robots community, we’ve been focused on creating a technology that is easy to use, safe, and affordable,” says Bouchard. “Now, we need to think about people: how will they go from buying the robot to having a working, efficient cell? Before Lean Robotics, it was easier said than done.”

The book “The Rise of Lean Robotics” is currently available in paper and ebook format on all platforms, as well as from leanrobotics.org

Samuel Bouchard is embarking on a speaking tour where he will share the Lean Robotics methodology. Conference schedule and registration is available here: leanrobotics.com/tour.

About Robotiq

At Robotiq, we free human hands from repetitive tasks. We help manufacturers overcome their workforce challenges by enabling them to install robots on their own. They succeed with our robotic plug + play tools and the support of our automation experts community, dof.robotiq.com.

Robotiq is the humans behind the robots: an employee-owned business with a passionate team and an international partner network.

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