

Press Release

Airbus acquires Seattle-area's MTM Robotics

Deal advances Airbus' commitment to continued automation of its manufacturing line

Toulouse, 12 December 2019 - Airbus has acquired industrial automation company, MTM Robotics, for an undisclosed sum. The move deepens Airbus' commitment to expanding advanced robotics capabilities within its manufacturing processes. The MTM business will retain its current leadership and 40-person staff, as well as its facility in Mukilteo, Washington, near Seattle.

"We are pleased and excited to become a part of the Airbus family and look forward to further integrating our products and approaches into the Airbus industrialization chain, "said MTM founder, Mike Woogerd.

The acquisition is the latest chapter in a trusted, ten-year-plus relationship between the companies, with multiple MTM light automated robotics systems currently in use at Airbus manufacturing facilities. While MTM will operate as a wholly owned subsidiary of Airbus Americas, Inc., headquartered in Herndon, Virginia, it will continue to serve other customers in the aerospace industry. Since 2003, MTM has deployed more than 40 aerospace manufacturing systems comprised of machines, tools, machine software, enterprise software and support throughout the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

The acquisition marks the latest step for Airbus in its industrialization roadmap, aimed at leveraging the time- and cost-saving benefits associated with using robotics in the manufacture and assembly of its commercial aircraft.

"The competitiveness of tomorrow will be determined by both designing the best aircraft and by building the most efficient manufacturing system, in parallel," said Michael Schoellhorn, Airbus Chief Operating Officer." Automation & robotics are central to our industrial strategy. We are very happy to welcome MTM Robotics as a family member and take a step forward on this exciting endeavour together."

"MTM perfectly fits Airbus' ambition for engineering and innovative manufacturing solutions while maintaining agility," explained Patrick Vigié, Head of Industrial Technologies at Airbus.

"Airbus and MTM Robotics each believe that tomorrow's automation in aircraft manufacturing can and must be lighter, more portable and less capital intensive," explained Vigié. "By joining our efforts and skills, we are well positioned to establish industrywide standards for the factory of tomorrow, "he said.

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About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2018 it generated revenues of € 64 billion and employed a workforce of around 134,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide.

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