Special Issue

Design and Application of Collaborative Robotics

Message from the Guest Editors

Collaborative robotics is a key enabling technology of Industry 4.0 and represents a way to effectively implement cyber-physical systems on the shop floor. At present, collaborative robots are becoming an important element flexible of manufacturing systems. Human–robot interaction, and in particular human–robot collaboration, are the forms by which collaborative robotics can be implemented in industry. Collaborative robots should not only increase flexibility, but also improve operators' work conditions and wellbeing by helping them in unsafe and less-ergonomic activities, acting as assistance systems. On the other hand, they can also improve the performance of the manufacturing system by enhancing productivity and process quality. Therefore, the general target of the present Special Issue is to contribute to the expansion of knowledge in this field, promoting research focused on the design and application of safe, human-centered, and efficient collaborative robotics in industrial settings.

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As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal Applied Sciences has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

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