Topical Collection

Smart Remanufacturing

Message from the Collection Editors

Remanufacturing is the process of returning a product that has reached the end of its service life to a condition at least as good as that of the original product. Remanufacturing is part of a circular economy aimed at minimising waste and conserving raw materials and energy, while also cutting greenhouse gas emissions and landfill space requirements. By saving input costs, remanufacturing can yield more affordable products and wider profit margins at the same time. Thus, remanufacturing is good for consumers and producers as well as for the environment; in this sense, remanufacturing is intrinsically smart manufacturing. While many original equipment manufacturers have embraced modern solutions such as digital twins, cyber–physical systems, artificial intelligence, smart sensors, big data and autonomous collaborative robots, remanufacturers tend to utilise tools and techniques from the last century. This Special Issue will look at how smart manufacturing technologies or any other advanced technologies can be directly employed or adapted to make remanufacturing technologically smarter.

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