IFR International Federation of Robotics

Press release

Robot Growth in Europe Outpaces Asia and North America

Frankfurt, September 24th, 2024 — **The new World Robotics report recorded a new peak of 92,393 industrial robot installations in Europe in 2023. An increase of 9% outpaced growth in both Asia and North America. The European Union accounted for 80% of installations in Europe.**

Asia suffered from the low demand of the electronics industry and the automotive industry: 382,073 units were installed in 2023, down 6%. The region is by far the world´s largest market. Installations in **North America** decreased by 2% to 47,730 units. Demand from the automotive industry fell by 6%. Across all industries, the result was still the third highest level of installations ever recorded.

"In Europe, high industrial order backlogs were cleared in 2023 due to supply chain constraints," says Marina Bill, President of the International Federation of Robotics. "In addition, there were early investments due to the expiry of support programs in 2023. All of this created a high base of demand for industrial robots in Europe."

Europe´s top 3

Germany, which belongs to the five major robot markets in the world, had a share of 31% of the total installations in Europe: A record-setting number of 28,355 robots (+7%) were newly installed in 2023. **Italy** followed with a market share of 11%: Installations reached 10,412 units (down 9%), following a record level the previous year. The robot market in **France** ranked third in Europe with a market share of 7%; robot installations reached 6,386 units (down 13%) after a peak in 2022.

Automotive, metal and electronics

Growth was strongly driven by the **automotive industry** in Europe: Installations hit 25,508 units. This was up 32%. Demand came from traditionally strong automotive countries such as **Germany** (9,190 units, +29%), and **Spain** (2,341 units +142%), as well as from smaller markets: Robot installations in **Slovakia** e.g reached a new high with 1,635 units installed. This was an increase of 61% and four times more than in 2021 in the automotive sector. Installations in Europe´s **metal and machinery** industry reached 18,737 units. This was down 1%, but the second-best result recorded since 2018. The **electrical and electronics** industry recorded 6,036 units, an increase of 8%.

Europe´s robot stock

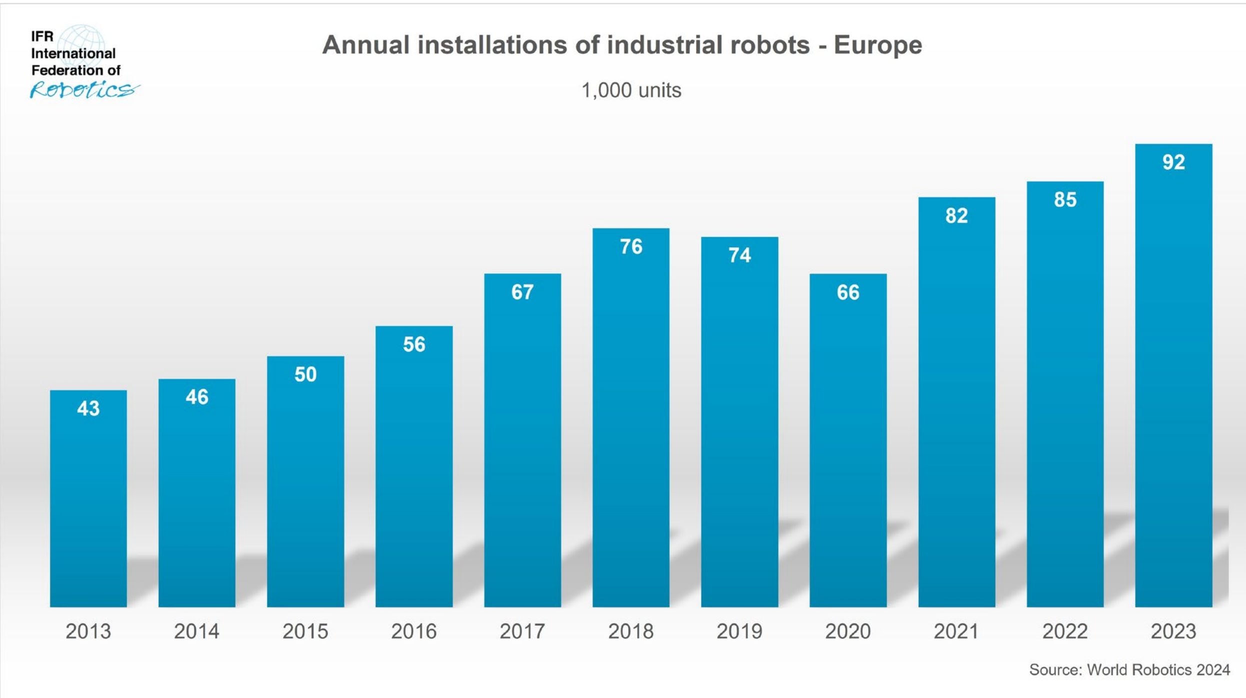
The stock of operational robots in Europe has grown by an average of 7% per year since 2018. There was a total of 777,596 units in operation on the factory floors.

International Federation of Robotics (IFR) Secretariat
President Marina Bill
General Secretary Dr. Susanne Bieller
c/o FV R+A im VDMA
Lyoner Strasse 18
60528 Frankfurt am Main
Germany
Phone +49 69 66 03-16 97
E-mail: secretariat@ifr.org
Internet www.ifr.org

Outlook

Robot installations in Europe are expected to fall significantly by 2024. The war in Ukraine, tight monetary policy and the relative weakness of the European automotive industry compared to China's are dampening investment. On the other hand, there is still a lot of political support for investment in Industry 4.0, and the transition to carbon neutrality as well as the regionalization of supply chains, are providing impetus. The emerging low-cost robotics segment is targeting new customer segments that have not yet used robots. Installations in Europe are expected to increase again from 2025.

Downloads
IFR graphs, market presentation and press releases on selected markets in English, Chinese, German and Japanese language are available at: https://ifr.org/ifr-press-releases/record-of-4-million-robots-working-in-factories-worldwide



Robot installations in Europe Hit All-Time High in 2023 © World Robotics 2024

Orders for World Robotics 2024 Industrial Robots and Service Robots reports can be placed online.

About IFR
The International Federation of Robotics is the voice of the global robotics industry. IFR represents national robot associations, academia, and manufacturers of industrial and service robots from over twenty countries: www.ifr.org

The IFR Statistical Department provides data for two annual robotics studies:

World Robotics - Industrial Robots: This unique report provides global statistics on industrial robots in standardized tables and enables national comparisons to be made. It presents statistical data for around 40 countries broken down into areas of application, customer industries, types of robots and other technical and economic aspects. Production, export and import data is listed for selected countries. It also offers robot density, i.e. the number of robots per 10,000 employees, as a measure for the degree of automation.

World Robotics - Service Robots: This unique report describes marketable products, tasks, challenges and new developments by service robots application. The report includes the results of the annual IFR service robot survey* on global sales of professional and consumer service robots and an industry structure analysis including a full list of all service robot producers known to the IFR. The study is jointly prepared with the robotics experts of Fraunhofer IPA, Stuttgart.

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Press contact
PRESS OFFICER
International Federation of Robotics
Carsten Heer
phone +49 (0) 40 822 44 284
E-Mail: press@ifr.org