

Robot Boom in the UK Hits All-Time High

Frankfurt, September 24th, 2024 – **Sales of industrial robots in the UK reached a new record high with 3,830 units installed in 2023. This is an increase of 51% compared to the previous year. The main driver of the boom has been the automotive industry. These are findings of the report World Robotics 2024, presented by the International Federation of Robotics (IFR).**

"The UK manufacturing industry has invested heavily in the installation of robotics in 2023," says Marina Bill, President of the International Federation of Robotics. "A massive tax break for investment in plant and machinery expired after the first quarter of 2023. This so-called 'super deduction' has reportedly boosted investment."

Automotive the strongest driver

Installations in the **automotive industry** jump 297% to 1,924 units in 2023. These units are mainly used for assembling tasks as several major EV projects were completed. The car segment accounts for a market share of 50%. The **food and beverage** industry increased their installations by 59% to 555 units. Robot demand from the **metal industry** was up 20% to 324 units.

Operational Stock

Despite its strong manufacturing industry, the UK's use of robotics and automation is rather low for a Western European country. Operational stock reached 28,831 units, up 9% in 2023. By comparison: Germany with 269,427 units had about nine times as many, Italy with 96,803 units about three times as many and France with 58,572 units about twice as many industrial robots.

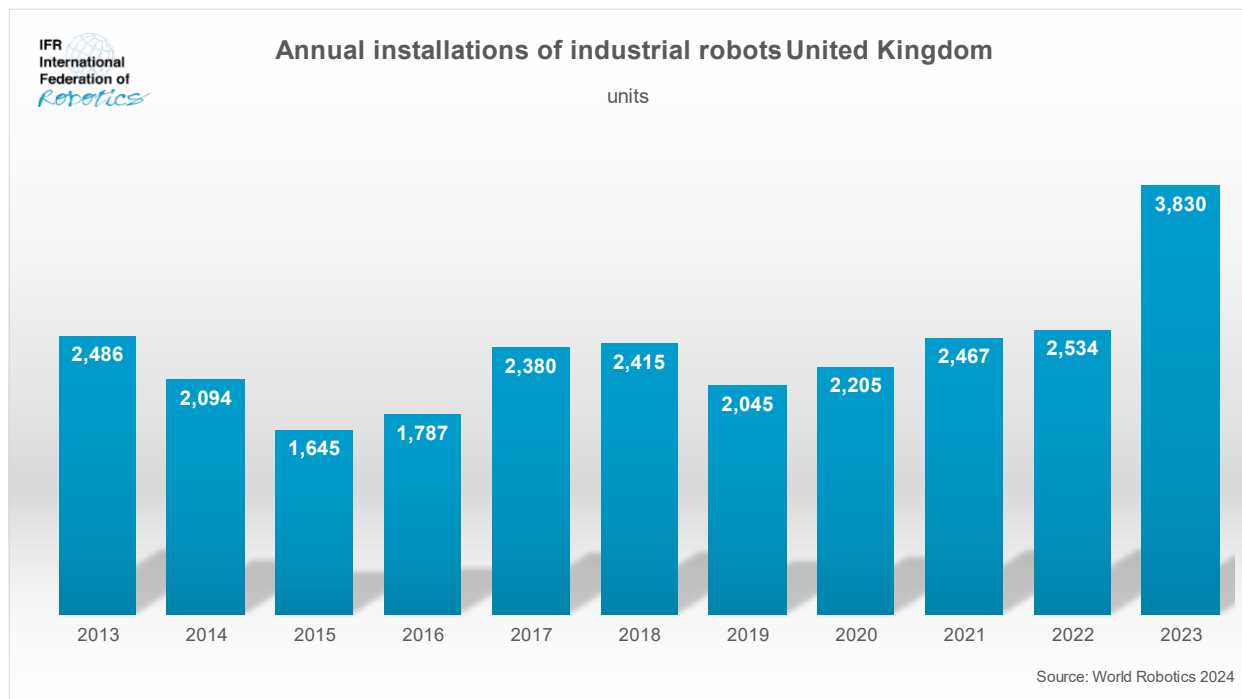
Both UK automotive and general industry need to continue to invest in automation to compete internationally.

Outlook

After the end of the "super deduction" in 2023, only a few investment announcements have been made by the automotive industry, which will come into effect in 2025 and 2026. As a result, robotics installations are expected to fall sharply in 2024, before slowly recovering and returning to growth from 2025 onwards.

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 the UK hit all-time high in 2023 © World Robotics

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