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Intelligent vacuum technology in automation

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Experts agree that in the future, no company competing at an international level can afford to ignore Industry 4.0. Today, Enterprises need to set a course for tomorrow and be ready for networked production. People, machines and resources interact in the factory of the future. Strongly individualized products are created through highly flexible and resource-efficient production. There is extensive integration of customers and business partners and value-added processes. Schmalz has already started along this path and is supporting their customers with innovative and future-proof solutions. Our work was focused on intelligent process communication long before any mention of Industry 4.0. In 2008, we launched the world's first vacuum generator with IO-Link interface, making it Industry 4.0 ready. Today we are the first manufacturer to combine sensor and actuator functions in a 4.0 compatible device. The ultimate aim of all our efforts and activities is to help our customers achieve more productive, efficient and flexible production processes through the use of intelligent vacuum solutions, thus enhancing their ability to compete.

Biography

Walter Dunkmann is Head of R & D and Business development for process automation end-effectors at J. Schmalz GmbH. Earlier he has worked as a Controls engineer. Many years he worked as a Project Manager for process automation in automotive industry and Sales & Product Management at ABB Robotics. Also he experienced as a Head of Business unit Press Automation at KUKA Systems

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