

CimStation Robotics

News Update 1



Nissan selects CimStation Robotics simulation software to reduce production lead times for Primera

In a bid to reduce production lead times by as much as a third for its new Primera Sedan car, Nissan in Sunderland is to use CimStation Robotics and Inspection offline programming software supplied by simulation specialists Applied Computing & Engineering.

CimStation Robotics simulation software will be used to program robots ahead of production of the Primera at Nissan's, Sunderland plant. CimStation will help Nissan engineers identify potential problem areas such as spot welding access for the robots, as new tooling is being developed. Programming of CMMs to inspect engine parts and vehicle body panels will draw on CAD data from Nissan's Japanese design and engineering section who also use CimStation Inspection and Robotics simulation software.

"We chose offline programming to reduce downtime incurred by online programming," said Craig Grafton, BIW planning engineer, Nissan. "CimStation Robotics gives us a consistent manufacturing simulation environment with which to share robotics data with our colleagues in Japan even though the robots may be different," he explained.

"Nissan is a forward looking company that has identified the real benefits of offline programming to cut downtime. By drawing on the wide range of robots supported by



CimStation, it is able to leverage its investment in the software to gain competitive advantage in the speed of introduction of the new Primera," said Yash Khandhia, technical director, Applied Computing & Engineering. "We are confident that the benefits already demonstrated here in the UK plant will lead to similar requirements in other European plants."

AC&E joins Automation and Robotics Association

Applied Computing & Engineering has joined the BARA the British Automation and Robot Association. The aim of the BARA is to promote the use of, and assist in the development of Automation in British industry. "We look forward to working with BARA to promote the application of robots in manufacturing industry," said AC&E managing director, Stewart Allinson. "We plan a similar involvement in other key European territories."

CimStation Robotics -User Feedback

Yash Khandia, technical director, AC&E has just completed a series of visits to US users of CimStation Robotics. In use in the major aerospace companies, CSR plays an important role in extensive simulations of large automatic riveting and assembly machines and other whole devices. In many of these examples there is a need to verify the program that has been created from the simulations. In these cases, CimStation Robotics is operated alongside our verification software to thoroughly check out the programs. Many of these applications may be of interest to the automotive industry as it seeks extra benefits from its simulations.

As with all simulations, there are advantages of considering options which would not be predicted under experimental trial and error. Also the programs can be produced more quickly, and ahead of time. Yash Khandia was interested to hear directly from the user community to understand why users are particularly impressed; their comments ranged from the 'most visual and easy to use' to 'extensive functionality and with the greatest precision'.

Clearly as the aerospace sector continues along the road to recovery after the tragic events of 2001, CimStation Robotics simulation technology has a part to play in raising the efficiency of very complex manufacturing stages.

Is CimStation Robotics right for you?

Applied Computing & Engineering has been deploying simulation technology for over 15 years in design and manufacturing applications. CimStation Robotics is now a key product for the company and has considerable potential to help customers produce better quality products, more quickly than in the past.

Simulation done well is a boon to any manufacturing organisation - unfortunately the reverse is also true - poor simulation costs time and money. CimStation Robotics is being used by the major automotive manufacturers and many of their sub-contractors.

For a manufacturing / simulation system to be highly effective, it must be easy and quick to use, it should be possible to access all required modules once in operation in the system. The system must also be precise enough to give accurate information on cycle times. Of equal importance is the ability to run as efficiently on PC as UNIX platforms. Although CimStation satisfies all these criteria it is not an expensive system. It is currently used by companies 'in the know' which is why we want to make it more readily available to organisations determined to remain technically efficient and price competitive.

We would like to invite you to test CimStation Robotics against your current simulation software. For a free evaluation copy of CimStation Robotics please complete the following and fax to AC&E at 01925 826460.

I undertake: simulation offline programming of robots

Currently I use:

Robcad
IGRIP
Other

I need to do more simulation, more quickly

Name
Company.....
Address.....
.....
Tel.....
e-mail.....

If you need urgent assistance with robot simulation please call us on 01925 830085.

