China International Robot Show

Chinese society is currently in the midst of full-scale industrialization, and thus the demand for robots is expected to increase. The CiROS2014 (China International Robot Show), which will be held at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre from July 9th (Wednesday) to 11th (Friday), 2014, is a clear reflection of this trend.

Our sales subsidiary, KRCT (Kawasaki Robotics Tianjin Co., Ltd), will represent Kawasaki Heavy Industries at the exhibition. We are preparing to construct a factory exclusively for robots on the premises of a Precision Machinery Company located in Suzhou, China, with plans to start mass production in April of 2015. This factory will be equipped with a state-of-the-art production line that will manufacture new robots for the Chinese market.

We plan to set up a vehicle body assembly line for demonstrations at CiROS2014. This assembly line will consist of three stages and a total of 29 robots, including the B series (articulated robots for spot welding), CX series (general-purpose large size robots), arc welding robots, and orthogonal servo locators. We aim to show the potential for greater productivity by taking advantage of the individual features of each robot. We also aim to demonstrate the possibilities of the new vehicle assembly line in which robots are arranged in a high-density layout. In addition to the assembly line, we will exhibit our newest and fastest palletizing robots, high-speed picking robots, and handling robots. We will also show how these robots can be used to promote robot automation.

We hope to see you at the exhibition and have the chance to demonstrate what Kawasaki robots seek to achieve in the Chinese market.

JPCA Show

Japan’s largest collection of exhibitions for electronics packaging and circuits in Japan will be held from June 4th (Wednesday) to 6th (Friday). During this period Tokyo Big Sight will play host to “JPCA Show 2014”, “Large Electronics Show”, “WIRE Japan Show”, “Microelectronics Show”, and “JISSO PROTEC”.

This year marks the first time Kawasaki will participate in this comprehensive collection of exhibitions. Visitors to these exhibitions will be exposed to a wide range of products, technologies, and services related to the manufacturing, research, and development of electronic circuits.

We will exhibit a printed-circuit board assembly cell composed of 18 MC004N units. Along with this cell, we will show how multiple robots, using vision sensors deployed on six different stages, work together to assemble (connect the FPC connector and solder), inspect, and dismantle printed-circuit boards. We hope to see you at the Kawasaki booth at the venue (East Hall 5, 5N31).

Sankei Shimbun Symposium

The “6th Gambare!! Monozukuri Japan: Urgent Proposal Symposium in Kansai” (sponsored by Sankei Shimbun, the Kansai Bureau of Economy, Trade and Industry, and the Kansai Head Office of SME Support, JAPAN) was held at Sankei Hall Breezé in Kita-ku, Osaka City on April 22nd, 2014. Mr. Hashimoto, General Manager of the Robot Division, took the stage in the panel discussion.

Speaking as the President of Medicaroid Corporation*, Mr. Hashimoto explained the needs for robots in the medical field. He also devoted time to conveying the company’s mission and providing an overview of its businesses. During the panel discussion he exchanged ideas and opinions with personnel from Osaka University, the Junior Chamber International Osaka, the Kansai Head Office of SME Support, JAPAN, and Shoko Chukin Bank. Each participant shared their views on what needs to be done to rejuvenate small to medium-sized companies.

*Medicaroid Corporation, jointly established by Sysmex and Kawasaki Heavy Industries in August, 2013, is a market research firm for medical robots. In the future it will engage in the development, manufacture, and sales of medical robots.