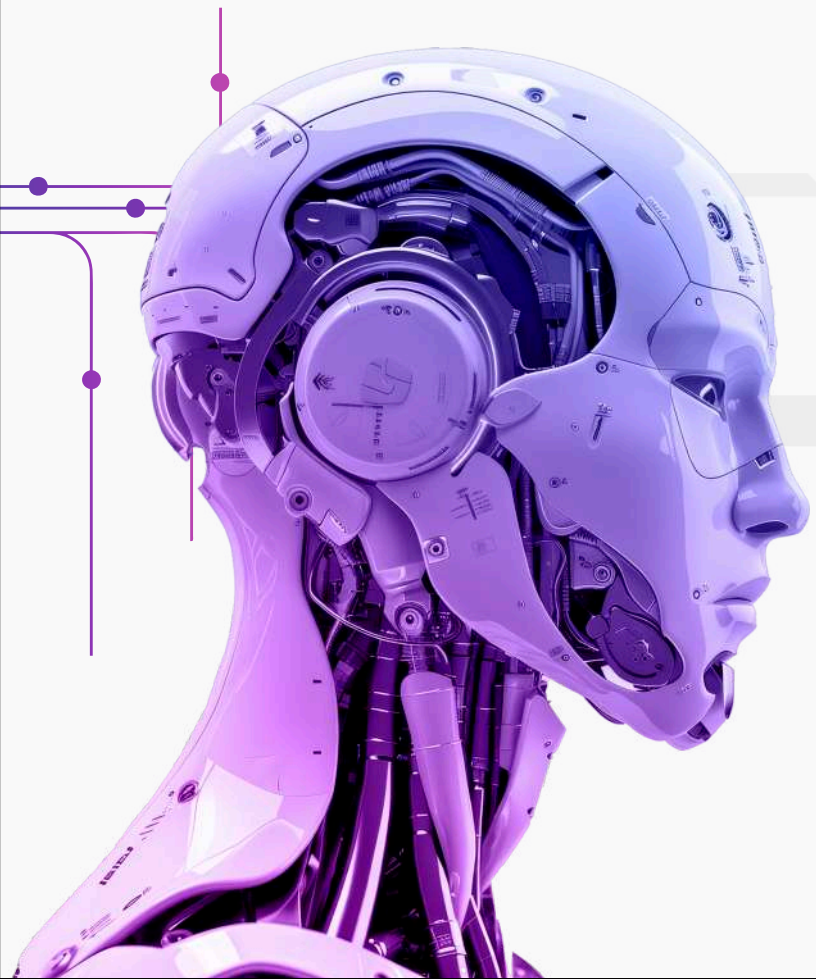
HELLO HUMANS | INTERNATIONAL HUMANOID FORUM

20TH-21ST FEBRUARY 2025 I BIEL/BIENNE, SWITZERLAND

HUMANOID HORIZONS: PIONEERING THE FUTURE OF ROBOTICS



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HELLO HUMANS

EVENT

Join the 1st International Humanoid Forum

The International Humanoid Forum is dedicated to exploring the practical applications of humanoid robotics in various industries. Hosted by the Swiss Cobotics Competence Center (S3C) and the Swiss Smart Factory at the Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne, this forum is a gathering of industry professionals, researchers, and innovators, focusing on bridging the gap between cutting-edge research and real-world applications.

Purpose and Goals

The primary aim of the International Humanoid Forum is to bridge the gap between research and industry applications. The forum will:

Showcase Recent Innovations: Present the latest advancements in humanoid robotics, including developments in control systems, artificial intelligence, and human-robot interaction.

Explore Industry Applications: Discuss the integration of humanoid robots into various sectors, such as manufacturing, healthcare, logistics, and service industries.

Identify Gaps and Challenges: Address the limitations and barriers to widespread adoption of humanoid robots, including technical, regulatory, and ethical challenges.

Facilitate Collaboration: Provide a platform for networking and collaboration among industry professionals, researchers, and stakeholders.

Event Structure

The forum spans two days, featuring keynote speeches, panel discussions, workshops, and live demonstrations:

Day 1: Keynote addresses from industry leaders and academic experts, panel discussions on recent innovations, applications, and ethical considerations, followed by live demonstrations and an evening reception.

Day 2: Practical workshops and real-world applications, concluding with a panel discussion on programming challenges and a networking reception.

Why Attend?

This forum is essential for anyone interested in the future of robotics and its industrial impact:

Insight: Gain insights into the latest technologies and trends in humanoid robotics.

Networking: Meet leading experts, innovators, and decision-makers.

Practical Knowledge: Acquire practical skills through workshops and demonstrations.

Comprehensive Understanding: Understand the challenges and opportunities in implementing humanoid robots.

Organizers

SWISS SMART FACTORY ®

powered by SWITZERLAND INNOVATION PARK BIEL/BIENNE

SCC SWISS COBOTICS COMPETENCE CENTER

Co-Organizers

Swiss CxO Forum
Innovation in Millions of Lives

robotics Innovation Booster

Sponsors

Standortförderung Kanton Bern

BOOSTER ROBOTICS

DEEPRobotics

Génération ROBOTS

ROLLOMATIC

KAWADA Robotics

Media & Technical Support

DF DataFaktory

impakt Essence of Dataleaf

essence infinite possibilities

SPONSORS

Kanton Bern

The Bernese innovation ecosystem is a dynamic network of future-oriented industries, research partners, private and public funded innovation incubators and investors. What truly sets the canton apart is the seamless collaboration within this community.

The Bern Economic Development Agency (BEDA) supports companies with tailored advisory services and financial incentives, helping businesses of all sizes — from startups and SMEs to multinationals —thrive in a global market.

Booster Robotics

Booster Robotics was founded in 2023, with core team members coming from Tsinghua University's Robot Control Lab and the Tsinghua Hephaestus RoboCup Team, having 20 years of expertise in the humanoid robotics field.

Since its establishment, the company has independently developed internationally leading consumer-level/industrial-level AI+ legged robots and was the first to be deployed in various industries, including power, hazard rescue, construction, and public security, with customers all over the world.

DEEPRobotics

DEEP Robotics is a national high-tech enterprise that focuses on the R&D, production, sales, and service of embodied AI robots. It is at the international leading level in robot core component design, advanced control algorithms, intelligent environment perception, and AI algorithms.

Since its establishment, the company has independently developed internationally leading consumer-level/industrial-level AI+ legged robots and was the first to be deployed in various industries, including power, hazard rescue, construction, and public security, with customers all over the world.

Generation Robots

With 16 years of experience in robotics, Generation Robots is a robots and robotic components distributor. We sell a comprehensive range of hand-picked robotics components.We have been delivering robotics equipment to many organizations in France and worldwide for over a decade.

As a renowned company in the robotics industry, Generation Robots has built strong partnerships with iconic brands over the years (ROBOTIS, Boston Dynamics, Adebaran Robotics, Ouster).

With offices in Bordeaux (France), Génération Robots also has a subsidiary in Berlin (Germany). We have clients in over 120 countries.

We also have our own engineering department, able to customize any platform, and design advanced robotic solutions for different industries (nuclear, aeronautics, farming, etc.).

Rollomatic

Rollomatic is a private Swiss company specializing in the design and manufacturing of high precision CNC machines for production grinding of cutting tools, cylindrical grinding, and laser cutting of ultra-hard materials.

Rollomatic's manufacturing methods and precision assembly are based on a passion for Swiss engineering and craftsmanship. Rollomatic philosophy is demonstrated by teams at every stage of product life, from design, assembly and Lean Manufacturing, to service, advice and customer support.

To complement its cutting-edge production process offering, Rollomatic's HumanoidPower division develops innovative solutions that enable customers to increase their performance and autonomy.

Kawada Robotics

Founded in 2013 as part of the Kawada Group, Kawada Robotics has become a recognized innovator in humanoid robotics and collaborative automation. Building on the Kawada Group's industrial expertise dating back to 1922, we develop advanced robotic solutions designed to seamlessly integrate into production environments.

Our flagship humanoid robot, NEXTAGE, works alongside humans to enhance safety, efficiency, and flexibility in manufacturing settings. By uniting human creativity with robotic precision, we aim to support industries in their transformation and contribute to a future where humans and robots thrive together.

Thursday 20th Feb 2025

Day 1: Keynotes and Panel Discussions

08:15 - 09:00	**Welcome Coffee and Check-in** At Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne AG	
09:00 - 09:05	**Welcome address by the Canton of Bern** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: Joëlle Ziegler	
09:05 - 09:10	**Opening Remarks by the Swiss Smart Factory, Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: Dr.-Ing. Dominic Gorecky	
09:10 - 09:15	**Opening Remarks by the Swiss Cobotics Competence Center (S3C)** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: Dr. Hakan Girgin	
09:15 - 09:45	**Cognitive Robots – Humanity's Trump Card** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: David Reger	#Keynote #Industry
09:45 - 10:30	**Humanoids on the Horizon: Bridging Technology and Industry** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Moderator: Katrin Yuan Participants: David Reger, Prof. Dr. Emre Ugur, Zakia Zeroual, Andre Heskamp	#Panel Discussion
10:30 - 11:00	**Coffee Break** At Foyer	
11:00 - 11:30	**What Happens When AI Meets Robotics? 2025 Robotics Update** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: Lukas M. Ziegler	#Keynote #Industry
11:30 - 12:15	**The Humanoid Revolution: Are We Ready Yet?** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Moderator: Dr.-Ing. Dominic Gorecky Participants: Prof. Dr. David Romero, Oliver Authried, Dr. Xavier Comtesse, Pascal Kaufmann, Dr. Seungjoon Yang	#Panel Discussion

Thursday 20th Feb 2025

Day 1: Keynotes and Panel Discussions

12:15 - 13:00	**Lunch Break and Visit of Exhibition** At Foyer	
13:00 - 14:30	**Pitching Session with Insights from Industrial and Academic Leaders** At Auditorium Moderator: Dr.-Ing. Dominic Gorecky Participants: Prof. Dr. Sarah Rochat, Chaoyi Li, Hiroyuki Fujii, Kai Leuze, Zakia Zeroual, David Weder, Tobias Rainer Schäfle, Dr. Xavier Comtesse, Yuki Long	
14:30 - 15:00	**Bio-inspired control of humanoid and animal-like robots** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: Prof. Dr. Auke J. Ijspeert	#Keynote #Academia
15:00 - 15:30	**Coffee Break** At Foyer	
15:30 - 16:10	**Humanoid robotics: Hype or Real ROI?** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Moderator: Dr. Milan Kumar Participants: Lukas M. Ziegler, Prof. Dr. Auke J. Ijspeert, Urs Gehrig, Dr. Davide Zappetti	#Panel Discussion
16:10 - 16:30	**Closing Remarks** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speakers: Prof. Dr. David Romero, Dr.-Ing. Dominic Gorecky	
16:30 - 17:15	**Live Demonstrations and Networking** Swiss Smart Factory (SSF) and Swiss Cobotics Competence Center (S3C)	
17:15 - 20:00	**Evening Reception** At Foyer & Swiss Smart Factory Hall	

Friday 21st Feb 2025

Day 2: Cluster Workshops

Workshop participants will be issued a certificate

09:00 - 09:45	**Welcome Coffee and Check-in** At Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne AG	
09:45 - 10:00	**Introduction** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speakers: , Dr. Hakan Girgin, Dr. Anca Rusu	
10:00 – 11:00	**AI in Humanoid Robotics** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Moderator: Dr. Hakan Girgin Participants: Dr. Sylvain Calinon, Kartik Sachdev, Dr. Baptiste Busch, Dr. Arash Ajoudani	#Panel Discussion – Q&A
11:00 - 11:30	**Coffee Break** At Foyer	
11:30 - 12:30 Parallel	**Programming Humanoid Robots - Hands-On Session** At Auditorium Instructor: Dr. Sylvain Calinon	#Technical Workshop
11:30 - 12:30 Parallel	**Workshop on AI in Humanoid Robotics** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Instructor: Dr. Anca Rusu	#Ideation Workshop
12:30 - 13:30	**Lunch Break** At Foyer	
13:30 - 14:30	**Humanoids in day-to-day life** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Moderator: Dr. Anca Rusu Participants: Alex Petrovic, Prof. Dr. Yulia Sandamirskaya, Dr. Sébastien Dalibard	#Panel Discussion – Q&A
14:30 - 15:00	**Coffee Break** At Foyer	

Friday 21st Feb 2025

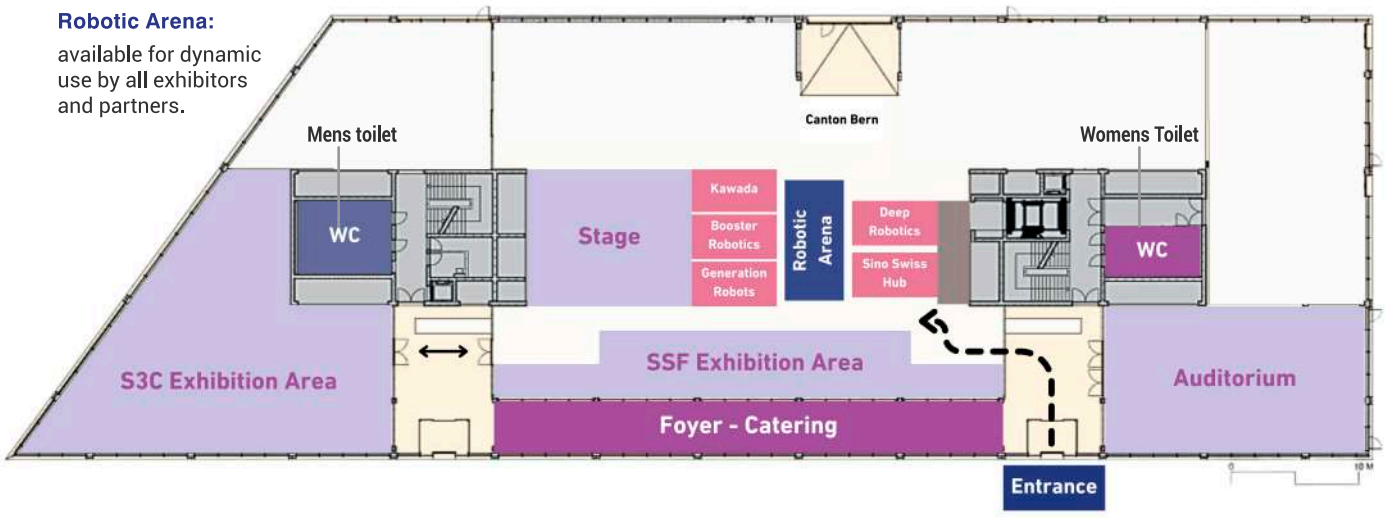
Day 2: Cluster Workshops

Workshop participants will be issued a certificate

15:00 - 16:00 Parallel	**NVIDIA Isaac Lab: Introduction & Hands-on Session** At Auditorium Instructor: Kartik Sachdev	#Technical Workshop
15:00 - 16:00 Parallel	**Workshop on Humanoids in day-to-day life** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Instructor: Dr. Anca Rusu	#Ideation Workshop
16:00 - 16:15	**Closing Remarks** At Swiss Smart Factory Hall Speaker: David Weder	
16:15 - 17:30	**Networking and Farewell Reception** At Swiss Smart Factory (SSF) and Swiss Cobotics Competence Center (S3C)	

Layout

Robotic Arena:
available for dynamic use by all exhibitors and partners.



SPEAKERS

David Reger

David Reger's career began in Switzerland as the founder and manager of high-tech companies in the automation and robotics industry. During this time, the young entrepreneur gained two profound insights: First, respect for existing technological achievements should never be an excuse to shy away from attempting the seemingly impossible. Second, only a completely new approach to robotics can overcome technological barriers to make robots a natural companion in a modern, social society.

With the mindset of an experienced yet grounded doer, David Reger founded NEURA Robotics GmbH in 2019 and, in record time, brought the first series-ready cognitive robots to market. These were based on a technological platform that combines artificial intelligence with groundbreaking sensor and hardware design, effectively transforming robots into smartphones with arms and legs.

Reger has been appointed to key thought-leadership and advisory positions, including membership in the Senate of the German Economy and the European Senate for Economy and Technology.

Prof. Dr. Auke J. Ijspeert

Auke Ijspeert is a professor at EPFL (the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne, Switzerland), IEEE Fellow, and head of the Biorobotics Laboratory (https://www.epfl.ch/labs/biorob). He has a B.Sc./M.Sc. in physics from the EPFL (1995), and a PhD in artificial intelligence from the University of Edinburgh (1999).

His research interests are at the intersection between robotics and computational neuroscience. He is interested in using numerical simulations and robots to gain a better understanding of animal locomotion and movement control, and in using inspiration from biology to design novel types of robots and locomotion controllers (see for instance Ijspeert et al, Science, Vol. 315, 2007 and Ijspeert, Science Vol. 346, 2014). He is also interested in assisting persons with limited mobility using exoskeletons and assistive furniture. With his colleagues, he has received paper awards at ICRA2002, CLAWAR2005, IEEE Humanoids 2007, IEEE ROMAN 2014, CLAWAR 2015, SAB 2018, CLAWAR 2019, and ICRA2024.

He is associate editor for the IEEE Transactions on Medical Robotics and Bionics. He is also a member of the Board of Reviewing Editors of Science magazine.

Dr. Sylvain Calinon

Dr Sylvain Calinon is a Senior Research Scientist at the Idiap Research Institute and a Lecturer at the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL). He heads the Robot Learning & Interaction group at Idiap, with expertise in human-robot collaboration, robot learning from demonstration, geometric representations and optimal control. The approaches developed in his group can be applied to a wide range of applications requiring manipulation skills, with robots that are either close to us (assistive and industrial robots), parts of us (prosthetics and exoskeletons), or far away from us (shared control and teleoperation). Website: https://calinon.ch

Prof. Dr. David Romero

Prof. Dr. David Romero is a Professor of Advanced Manufacturing at the Departments of Industrial Engineering and Mechatronics of the Tecnológico de Monterrey University in Mexico and the Scientific Vice-chairman for the World Manufacturing Foundation. His research interests include: Circular Manufacturing, Service Engineering and Product-Service Systems, Cyber-Physical Systems and Human Systems, Advanced Production Management Systems, Green Virtual Enterprises, and Technology and Engineering Management in the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

He is a member of the Society of Collaborative Networks, the IFAC TC5.3 on Enterprise Integration and Networking, the IFIP WG5.7 on Advances in Production Management Systems, the IFIP WG5.12 on Architectures for Enterprise Integration, the IEEE Technology and Engineering Management Society, and the IEEE Internet of Things Community. Furthermore, he is an Agenda Contributor at the World Economic Forum (WEF) Council on "Shaping the Future of Advanced Manufacturing and Value Chains", and a World Manufacturing Forum (WMF) Ambassador. He has published more than 200 journal and international conference articles. He serves on different technical and scientific committees and advisory boards in academia, industry, and government in the disciplines of business and industrial engineering. Nowadays, he is focused on promoting the concepts of the "Operator 4.0/5.0" and "Digital Lean Manufacturing"; the father of both terms.

Dr.-Ing. Dominic Gorecky

Dominic Gorecky is a partner and executive board member at Switzerland Innovation Park Biel/Bienne AG. He co-founded and leads the Swiss Smart Factory, Switzerland's first and foremost test and demonstration platform for Industry 4.0.

He also founded the International Smart Factory Academy (IFSA) and co-founded the Swiss Cobotics Competence Center (S3C), where he serves as President of the Board. S3C is a national hub for industrial and academic partners to collaboratively develop and test next-generation robotic solutions.

Previously, Dominic was the head of research for the Innovative Factory Systems department at the German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI) in Kaiserslautern, Germany. In this role, he coordinated R&D for the living lab SmartFactoryKL.

Dominic contributes to the World Economic Forum (WEF) agenda and advises several Industry 4.0 start-ups. He co-founded the Swiss CxO Forum and chairs the International Smart Factory Summit.

In 2022, he was recognized as a Digital Shaper in Switzerland.

Dominic is passionate about driving responsible digital transformation for a sustainable society. He teaches various technology topics, including digital twins, cobotics, and IIoT in manufacturing. His PhD focused on the use of semantic technologies in the context of the digital factory.

Dr. Hakan Girgin

Dr. Hakan Girgin is the Innovation Manager at the Swiss Cobotics Competence Center (S3C) in Biel, Switzerland. With a Ph.D. in robotics from EPFL, his expertise lies in human-robot collaboration, robot learning, and learning from demonstration. Dr. Girgin is dedicated to bridging the gap between research and industry through technology transfer, focusing on adapting cutting-edge robotic solutions for industrial use. His work includes developing and advancing collaborative base cells (CBCs) to improve their technology readiness levels (TRL). He leads a team committed to delivering innovative cobotic solutions while enhancing robot skills' adaptability and generalization to task variations. Dr. Girgin has contributed to multiple EU-Horizon 2020 projects and is actively involved in providing training and consultancy services to support the future of automation and Industry 4.0.

David Weder

David Weder, CEO of the Swiss Cobotics Competence Center, brings extensive industry experience in advanced engineering, automation, and robotics. Passionate about revolutionizing human-machine interaction, David is deeply engaged in the transformative potential of collaborative robotics.

With an EMBA in General Management, he has held pivotal roles, including his position on the executive board at the SME W. Steinegger AG, and has worked with several leading industrial companies in machining and automation. David's career spans strategic development, complex project leadership, and innovative engineering solutions, establishing him as a notable voice in technical transformation and the future of industry.

Known for his collaborative, team-centered approach, David combines technical depth with practical insights, offering strategies in effective leadership, agile project management, and the synergy between technology and human capability. His expertise appeals to professionals seeking advancement in engineering, project management, and organizational growth within a rapidly evolving technological landscape.

Prof. Dr. Sarah Dégallier Rochat

Sarah Dégallier Rochat is the Head of the strategic thematic field « Humane Digital Transformation" at the Bern University of Applied Sciences (BFH). She is a researcher at the Institute for Human-Centered Engineering (HuCE) and the co-leader of the Computer Vision and Virtual Reality Lab (cpvrLab). She holds a BSc and MSc in Mathematics and a PhD in Robotics from EPFL. She received the "Industry 4.0 Shapers" Award in 2019.

As the Head of Humane Digital Transformation, her goal is to foster a development of digital technologies that is centered on the human needs and that aims at creating an inclusive and equitable future. Her personal research focuses on the participative development of inclusive human-machine interfaces and on the upskilling of the workforce in production settings. With her spin-off AutoMate Robotics, she is developing flexible robotic cells that can be easily reprogrammed by non-experts for industrial applications.

Katrin J. Yuan

Katrin J. Yuan is an award-winning executive with a background in technology and transformation. With a Master of Business Administration and studies in IT and finance, Katrin is fluent in six languages. She is a Board Member, Chair of the AI Future Council, lectures at four universities, and serves as a Jury Member for the ETH. Katrin is an influential executive networker, investor and speaker. Her expertise extends to AI tech future and Boards, enforcing AI and a diverse data-driven approach.

Dr. Milan Kumar

Dr. Milan Kumar is a distinguished figure in the field of global technology as a Global Chief Information and Digital Officer (CDIO), renowned as a TEDx speaker, educator, international author and startups mentor. He currently serves as the CIO of ZF Commercial Vehicles based in Bern, Switzerland. He has led multiple global Digital Transformation initiatives and passionate about "Data Monetization".

Dr. Kumar has a wealth of experience in senior IT leadership roles, having previously acted as the CIO and CDO, as well as a board member at WABCO (NYSE :WBC), VOLKSWAGEN Gr.

Throughout his career, Dr. Kumar has supported technology transformation of many Fortune 500 companies such as VOLKSWAGEN Group, ZF Group, BMW Group, General Motors, British Airways, Reliance, Atlas Copco, Morgan Stanley, WABCO etc.

Dr. Kumar's academic achievements include a PhD in AI Management and completion of the "Driving Growth Through Innovation" at the Harvard Business School. He has been recognized with numerous awards, including the "Swiss CIO of the Year," "Global Digital CIO," and "CIO Excellence Award" from Economics Times. Dr. Kumar is a TEDx & Global Keynote Speaker and an avid technical writer with his articles being published in various CIO magazines, Springer, World Economic Forum (WEF), MIT , Forbes etc.

Dr. Anca Georgiana Rusu

Dr. Anca-Georgiana Rusu is the Program Manager at Innovation Booster Robotics, Community Manager at EPFL Robotics, and Executive Director of the Swiss Robotics. As the EPFL focal point for robotics, Anca Rusu leads efforts to build a robust Swiss Robotics Community through initiatives like the Innovation Booster on Robotics and the creation of a Swiss Robotics Association. In this role, she coordinates EPFL Robotics Laboratory visits, promotes research to international media and scientific channels, and supports outreach events. Additionally, Anca oversees the Innovation Booster Robotics program, leading fundraising efforts, developing program strategies, and organizing key robotics events in Switzerland. Furthermore, she provides support for EPFL robotics education initiatives, ensuring equal opportunities and promoting the robotics master and doctoral programs through various communication channels.

With over six years of experience as a project manager at EPFL's International Risk Governance Center, Anca has led interdisciplinary research endeavors focusing on the risk governance of emerging technologies. Anca holds a Master's degree in Social Sciences, specializing in communication and culture, from the University of Lausanne. Dr. Rusu also holds a PhD from Paris Dauphine University, where her research centered on the role of organizational communication in emerging technologies, specifically in the realm of artificial intelligence.

Zakia Zeroual

Zakia is a deep-tech enthusiast with a passion for blending systems thinking and intelligent systems to drive transformative solutions. With a career spanning technology transfer, commercialization, and product development, she excels at fostering cross-cultural collaboration to tackle global challenges. Currently, Zakia advises young talents on unlocking business opportunities through the strategic application of AI for social good worldwide.

A graduate of TU Ilmenau with a specialization in Intelligent Systems and Automation, and holding an EMBA in digitalization and strategic management, Zakia bridges cutting edge technical innovation with economic foresight. Her work is fueled by a deep commitment to mentoring, exploring technological advancements, and harnessing creativity to enhance humanity's legacy. Thriving at the intersection of curiosity, culture, and impact, Zakia embodies a future-oriented mindset that inspires purpose-driven progress on a global scale.

Lukas Ziegler

Lukas is the founder of a leading media house dedicated to robotics companies, ranging from innovative startups to industry giants like ABB and NVIDIA. As an expert in the field, Lukas is also a lecturer at the Business School of Warsaw University of Technology, where he imparts his knowledge of Industry 4.0 to MBA students.

With years of experience in the deep-tech startup ecosystem, Lukas serves as a Venture Partner at ffVC, where he plays an instrumental role in supporting emerging startups in the robotics market. His passion for advancing the robotics industry is further demonstrated through his creation of a vibrant community of over 250,000 enthusiasts, with a strong following in both Europe and the United States.

Lukas's content reaches more than 100 million people annually, empowering and educating a global audience on the transformative potential of robotics and technology.

Prof. Dr. Emre Ugur

Emre Uğur is an Associate Professor in the Dept. of Computer Engineering at Bogazici University and the head of the Cognition, Learning, and Robotics (CoLoRs) lab. He received his PhD degree in Computer Engineering from Middle East Technical University (METU, Turkey). He worked as a research scientist at ATR, Japan (2009-2013); visited Osaka University as a specially appointed Assist.&Assoc. Professor (2015&2016); and worked as a senior researcher at the University of Innsbruck (2013-2016). He has been the principal investigator of INVERSE and IMAGINE projects supported by the European Commission, Horizon 2020 Programme; EXO-AI-FLEX, DeepSym and DeepPlan projects supported by TUBITAK. He has been awarded The Young Scientist Award by the Science Academy (BAGEP) and The Excellence in Teaching Award by the Faculty of Engineering. He is interested in robotics, robot learning, and cognitive robotics.

Chaoyi Li

Chaoyi Li, Head of Globalization at Booster Robotics, is committed to bringing affordable, reliable, and useful humanoid robots to global markets. Chaoyi has over 10 years of experience in the ToB sector. Prior to joining Booster Robotics, he held leadership roles at ByteDance, managing complex ToB products, and also has a background in consulting and investment. With his extensive experience, Chaoyi aims to integrate technology and service to provide the best solutions for clients.

Dr. Xavier Comtesse

Dr. Xavier Comtesse is a prominent figure in the fields of digital transformation. With a background in computer science and extensive experience in research and development, he has made significant contributions to both academia and industry.

Dr. Comtesse holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science and has worked with various organizations, focusing on the integration of advanced technologies into practical applications. He is known for his interdisciplinary approach, bridging technical expertise with strategic insights to address complex challenges in digital technology.

Throughout his career, Dr. Comtesse has been involved in numerous research projects and initiatives aimed at fostering innovation, particularly in the realms of AI and machine learning. He is also emphasizing the importance of governance and accountability in the deployment of AI systems.

As a thought leader, Dr. Comtesse is a frequent speaker at international conferences and is actively engaged in mentoring the next generation of technologists and researchers. His work continues to influence the evolving landscape of thechnology and its applications across various sectors.

Kartik Sachdev

Kartik Sachdev is a Solutions Architect at NVIDIA, specializing in Robotics and AI, based in Munich. He is leading customer engagements in the EMEA region across a diverse range of autonomous machines and robots, leveraging his expertise in technologies such as Humanoid Robotics, Computer Vision, Robot Learning, and Foundation Models.

As an expert in NVIDIA's platforms, including Isaac Sim, Isaac Lab, and Omniverse, Kartik delivers innovative solutions that drive business value for the customers. With a proven track record of working in multiple geographies, including India, Germany, and Japan, he brings a unique blend of cultural and technical expertise to his role, enabling him to effectively collaborate with clients and deliver tailored solutions that meet their needs.

Tobias Rainer Schäfle

Tobias Rainer Schäfle, Ph.D., Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation (IPA), is a passionate engineer who is enthusiastic about robotics and innovative technologies. His academic career includes a Master of Engineering (M.Eng.) in mechanical engineering and a Master of Science (M.Sc.) in technical cybernetics. In 2021, he completed his doctorate in engineering at Toyohashi University of Technology in Japan. Until the end of June 2024, he worked as an expert in industrial service robotics in the robotics department of Fraunhofer IPA in Stuttgart. Since July 2024, he has been business segment manager for automated intralogistics and manufacturing systems at Fraunhofer IPA.

Pascal Kaufmann

Pascal Kaufmann is a neuroscientist-turned-entrepreneur. The renowned US business journal “Inc.” named Elon Musk, Stephen Hawking and Pascal Kaufmann some of the leading voices in a new understanding of intelligence.

After receiving his Master’s Degree in Neuroscience and Economics at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich and Northwestern University in Evanston, IL (USA), Pascal has worked at the prestigious Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the University of Zurich, Switzerland. His work has been focused on numerous projects that explore the interface between brains and machines, aiming to unravel the secrets of neural networks and brain activity.

In 2010, Kaufmann founded the company Starmind for self-learning knowledge networks together with the business IT specialist Marc Vontobel. In 2017, he launched the Mindfire group that aims to decipher the principles of intelligence and make this knowledge available to cutting-edge research to empower humans. Since June 2022, Mindfire has been bringing together thousands of talents at its AI lab in Davos called Lab42 to develop human-level AI for humankind. Pascal Kaufmann serves on numerous boards and institutions and is currently the president of the Tech category of the Swiss Digital Economy Award. In 2023, he co-founded the tech startup AlpineAI that offers AI solutions to companies allowing them to leverage the potential of AI to enhance their business.

Oliver Authried

Oliver currently serves as Project Coordinator at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in the Division of Digital Transformation and Artificial Intelligence. His work includes projects leveraging AI and digital tools for development. Previous projects also established accelerator programs, learning and innovation hubs or factories, and mentorship programs all geared towards making technologies accessible and ensuring sustainable impact. Piloting state-of-the-art technologies for development projects has been a key component of his work since 2016. With a passion for technology, he provides his approaches and ideas to a variety of projects in developing countries.

Thanks to his experience, he navigates the complex environment of international affairs, coordinates projects among diverse cultural and professional backgrounds, enabling him to find the best solutions required for sustainable manufacturing practices.

Prof. Dr. Björn Jensen

Björn Jensen studied Electrical Engineering with a specialization in Automation and Image Processing. In 1998, he received a MSc degree from the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany and in the following year a Master’s degree in Industrial Management from the same institution. He then joined the Autonomous Systems Lab at Ecole Polytéchnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland, and participated in Robox@Expo.02 and Smarter-Elrob projects. In 2005, he visited the Arai-Ota lab at Tokyo University, Japan, before receiving his PhD in the area of human-robot interaction from EPFL. After his studies, he founded Singleton 3D, a start-up company developing 3D laser measurement technology. He taught robotics at the Bern University of Applied Sciences. Today he teaches medical robotics within the Biomedical Engineering Program of the University of Bern and is a lecturer in the Computer Engineering branch of Business Engineering at Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

Urs Gehrig

Urs Gehrig is Principal Consultant Business Development and Head of the Competence Center (CoC) Predictive Maintenance SBB. He has a degree in Electrical Engineering (HTL), a Master in Law (lic. iur.) and a degree in Secondary Education. Urs Gehrig currently leading the Enterprise Asset Management in the S/4 SBB program at SBB. He was giving lectures on «Digitalized Maintenance» at Zurich University of Applied Sciences and is going to give lectures at FHNW on a "CAS GenAI and Human-AI Interaction"; Urs is a member of the Advisory Board of the Locomotive bOgie Condition mAinTEnance (LOCATE) project running European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program, as well as in POLIMI (UIC Project 2020/RSF/664) and AIPM (UIC P700). He is a Certified SAFe® 5 Agilist. Urs is Chairman of SUGRail SIG for Intelligent Asset Management since 2019. He is a passionate drummer, instructor and composer.

Hiroyuki Fujii

Fujii has over a decade of experience in developing and expanding the market for working humanoid robots at Kawada Robotics. He played a key role in the business development of the "NEXTAGE," a next-generation robot designed to make collaborative robotics more accessible through affordable and innovative solutions. His expertise spans business development and the promotion of robotics in manufacturing.

As a seminar speaker, Fujii has shared his insights at various seminars, including ROBODEX in Japan, where he discussed the potential of humanoid robots in addressing labor shortages. He continues to collaborate with European partners to expand the market for collaborative humanoids in Europe.

Kai Leuze

Kai Leuze is a visionary founder and innovator, having established and influenced several tech companies in the fields of cameras, sensors, imaging, and electronics. His "out of the box" work has advanced these industries, showcasing his commitment to technological excellence and innovation. In recent years, Kai has focused on drone and robotic technology, further pushing the boundaries of what's possible through a strategic partnership with Deep Robotics.

Prof. Dr. Arash Ajoudani

Arash Ajoudani is the director of the Human-Robot Interfaces and Interaction (HRI^2) lab at IIT. He received the ERC proof-of-concept grant 2023 (Real-Move) and the ERC starting grant 2019 (Ergo-Lean). He coordinates the H2020 SOPHIA project, co-coordinates H2020 CONCERT, and is a principal investigator in several Horizon Europe and national projects. He won the IEEE RAS Early Career Award 2021, Amazon Research Award 2019, KUKA Innovation Award 2018, and multiple best paper awards. His PhD thesis was a finalist for the Georges Giralt PhD award 2015. He is the IIT-PI of the IIT Leonardo R4M and IIT-Intellimech JOiiNT labs. He authored Transferring Human Impedance Regulation Skills to Robots and numerous publications. He is an IEEE RAS AdCom member (2022-2024), IEEE-RAS YP Chair, and Senior Editor of IJRR. His research focuses on physical HRI, mobile manipulation, robust control, assistive robotics, and tele-robotics.

Prof. Dr. Yulia Sandamirskaya

Yulia Sandamirskaya is the Head of a Research Center “Cognitive Computing in Life Sciences” at ICLS/ZHAW. She leads the Neuromorphic Computing Group that develops brain-inspired sensing and AI technology for assistive robots in health-, elderly-, and home-care. She has a degree in Physics from the Belarussian State University and Dr.rer.nat. in Neural Computation from the Ruhr-University Bochum. Before joining ZHAW she led the Applications Research team of the Neuromorphic Computing Lab at Intel and the Neuromorphic Cognitive Robots group at Institute of Neuroinformatics at UZH/ETH Zurich. She got a Business Insider Future Maker award and was listed under 30 women in robotics you need to know about by Robohub.

Joëlle Ziegler

Joëlle is a hands-on expert with in-depth knowledge of the Swiss and Bernese innovation and industrial ecosystem, particularly those driving excellence in manufacturing and technological advancement. As part of the Bern Economic Development Agency, Joëlle helps foster innovation and create optimal conditions for companies looking to settle and grow in the canton of Bern.

Yuki Long

Yuki Long is the founder of Sino Swiss Hub AG and the initiator of the DeepTech House @Davos Association. With over years of experience in international technology transfer and consulting, Yuki has been at the forefront of bridging innovative technologies and global markets. Sino Swiss Hub AG serves as the sales partner of Unitree Robotics in Switzerland and is dedicated to introducing a wide range of DeepTech products to seamlessly integrate into Swiss local markets.

Baptiste Busch

Baptiste Busch holds a PhD in robotics and machine learning for human-robot interaction from Université de Bordeaux, France. He worked as a postdoctoral researcher at LASA EPFL on human-robot interaction in industrial settings before co-founding AICA in 2019. With a solid technical background and hands-on experience in developing advanced software, he is devoted to creating solutions that bridge the gap between complex robotic tasks and seamless execution.

Dr. Sébastien Dalibard

Dr. Sébastien Dalibard is the Hardware Chief Technology Officer at Aldebaran, where he has spent the last 12 years driving technological advancement. Sébastien has graduated in Computer Science from ENS Paris, and holds a PhD in Robotics from the University of Toulouse, France, specializing in Motion Planning for Humanoid Robots. After having held academic research positions in LAAS-CNRS, Toulouse France and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, Sébastien joined Aldebaran in 2012.

At Aldebaran, Sébastien has worked on the development of Pepper, two versions of Nao and the Plato mobile service robot. He has held various positions: motion control and planning engineer, head of embedded Robotics Software, head of System Architecture and for the last year Hardware CTO. In his current role, he is focused on the development of the seventh version of Nao, which will be put on the educational and healthcare markets in 2026.

Andre Heskamp

Andre Heskamp possesses extensive expertise in advancing digital transformation in manufacturing, particularly through cutting-edge applications in humanoid technology. His efforts have significantly advanced Schaeffler's commitment to leveraging automation for enhanced operational efficiency and manufacturing excellence.

Andre Heskamp has a robust background in Digitalization and Operations IT and has held various key roles at Schaeffler since 2017, including Vice President of IT Product Line in Germany and Head of Digitalization and Operations IT for the Asia Pacific region based in Vietnam. He plays a vital role in driving the development and implementation of innovative technologies for the company's production.

Dr. Davide Zappetti

Dr. Davide Zappetti is the Innovation Manager at Enchanted Tools, where he drives technological advancements, fosters strategic collaborations with academia and industry, and leads intellectual property (IP) creation. With a PhD in robotics and a background in mechanical engineering and materials science, he has worked at the intersection of AI, machine learning, and advanced mechatronics. Since joining Enchanted Tools at its inception, he has contributed to the development of innovative robotic systems, including humanoid robots, which he has been working on for the past few years. His expertise lies in bridging hardware and AI, ensuring seamless integration of technology to enhance robotic performance. While deeply rooted in research and development, he also ensures that these technologies make sense from a business perspective, aligning innovation with real-world applications and market needs.

Dr. Seungjoon Yang

SEUNGJOON YANG received his B.S. degree from Seoul National University in Seoul, South Korea, in 1990 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Wisconsin–Madison in 1993 and 2000, respectively, all in electrical engineering. He worked at the Digital Media Research and Development Center at Samsung Electronics Company Ltd. from September 2000 to August 2008. He is affiliated with the Graduate School of Artificial Intelligence and the Department of Electrical Engineering at Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology in Ulsan, South Korea. He is the director of the Industry-University Convergence Campus at UNIST. His research interests include image processing, 3D surface geometry representation, compression, and understanding.

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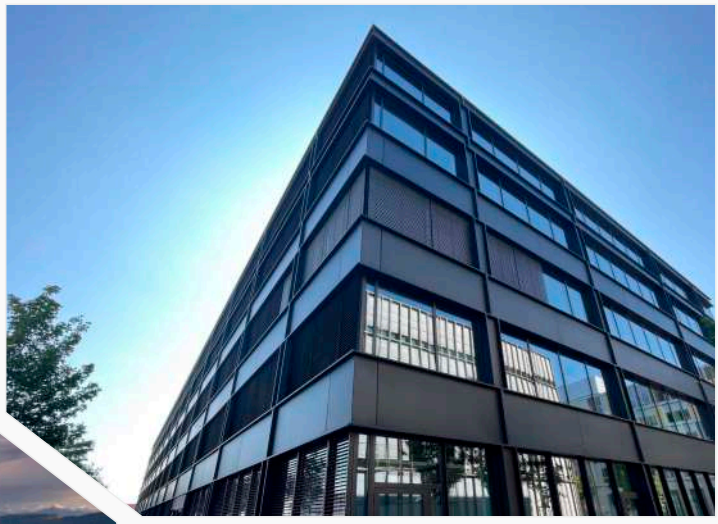

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