

PRESS RELEASE

November 24th 2020

Robot range is quickly extended with the new 7th axis from igus

A ready-to-fit 7th axis has been designed and manufactured by igus to enable Universal Robots (UR) and robolink robots to travel several metres.

The global manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings, which has its UK headquarters in Northampton, has developed this robotic solution to include a maintenance-free, drylin ZLW toothed belt axis, corresponding adapter plate and a switch cabinet, cables and software.

Customers can add this 7th axis to an existing articulated arm robot, as well as to a Universal Robot.

Matthew Aldridge, UK Managing Director of igus, explained: "Robots do everything from inserting pieces into a milling machine to dispensing chocolate bars from vending machines to placing crates on to pallets. But how can robots move vertically, horizontally, or overhead in a controlled direction? The answer is a 7th axis."

This igus 7th axis is specifically designed for linear movement. It is a lubrication-free, lightweight flat linear unit with a stroke of up to 6 metres and, with the help of the drylin linear bearings, a positional accuracy of 0.5mm.

To easily integrate the axis and robot, igus has developed two adapter kits.

A customer purchasing the new complete system receives an adapter plate which easily attaches to the robot and an energy chain which attaches to the unit.

If a robotlink robot is used, the 7th axis can be simply controlled by igus robot control software.

For UR robots, igus supplies the UR-CAP integration solution, which includes all the electrical modules needed. This means that the robot can be installed and put to work within just a few minutes. igus also offers solutions for UR3, UR5 and UR10 robots (Universal Robots), robotlink DP robots and DCi robots.

Ready-to-connect 7th axis in the length you require

The 7th axis is supplied by igus as a complete, ready to connect system. It consists of a drylin ZLW-20 toothed belt axis in the required length, plus connecting cables, the control cabinet, power electronics, software, and corresponding adapter kit. This adapter kit is also available to purchase separately.

Find your solution online by visiting: <https://www.igus.co.uk/info/7th-axis-for-universal-robots>

Photo caption: Using an igus 7th axis, UR robots can move several metres

ends

About igus:

Based in Northampton in the UK and with global headquarters in Cologne, Germany, igus is a leading international manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The family-run company is represented in 35 countries and employs over 4000 people around the world. In 2019, igus generated a turnover of 764 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications.

With plastic bearing experience since 1964, cable carrier experience since 1971 and continuous-flex cable experience since 1989, igus provides the right solution based on 100,000 products available from stock, with between 1,500 and 2,500 new product introductions each year. igus



operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

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