

Socomec joins CEA Tech for Industry 4.0

Benfeld, 13 June 2017

SOCOMECE joins the CEA's FFLOR (Future Factory @ Lorraine) platform located at the PSA Group's plant in Trémery-Metz (Moselle), showing its intention to take part in the new generation of Industry 4.0.

An open laboratory for tomorrow's industry



Socomec has joined the FFLOR (Future Factory @ Lorraine) platform located at the Group PSA's plant in Trémery-Metz (Moselle).

The platform, created at the beginning of 2017 by CEA Tech (the French Atomic Energy and Alternative Energy Commission's technology research unit), aims to structure a "Factory of the future" centre of excellence hub in the greater Eastern France region. It benefits from the support of the greater Eastern France region and the French state, and required more than a year of studies and an investment of 4 million Euros.

Socomec thus joins twelve other industrial partners of the platform that include Grundfoss, PSA, Schneider Electric, SEW Usocom, etc. Some twenty partners are expected by the end of 2017.

Philippe Watteau, director of CEA Tech's List Institute: "This platform is intended to be an open lab in the factory of the future by getting end users, system integrators and equipment manufacturers to work together. Once validated, the production solutions designed on site are intended to be integrated in the production lines. All the industrial companies will be able to share their experiences and to look for ways to accelerate their production cycles"

The aim: to have a more ergonomic factory

Previous collaboration with CEA Tech enabled Socomec to develop technology for detecting electrical arcs in solar power facilities that was integrated in one of its systems. In February 2016, the Alsace-based signed a new agreement with the CEA focused on its future generations of energy converters.

By joining the FFLOR platform, Socomec intends to carry out experiments as part of its new prospective project for Industry 4.0 (collaborative robotics and cobotics, smart logistics, virtual reality, augmented reality, etc.). The company will be able to carry out tests using the equipment available on the 1,000 m² FFLOR platform.

The first experiment will focus on reducing the strains caused by workstations and on improving the ergonomics and the gripper systems used in assembly operations. In a second phase, experiments will be conducted using virtual reality in order to train operatives.

Find out more on the CEA Tech stand (A14) at the Tomorrow's Industries Exhibition in Mulhouse on 14-15 June 2017.

About CEA Tech:

Within the CEA, identified by Thomson Reuters as the most innovative public research organisation in Europe and second in the world, CEA Tech drives technological innovation to improve the competitiveness of French companies in terms of product performance and differentiation.

With 4,500 employees, CEA Tech develops and transfers generic technologies that cover the majority of the field from traditional industrial applications to the most advanced "high-tech" sectors and addresses all sizes of companies. It deploys this dynamic in all the French regions by supporting its local partners in their approach to innovation and thus helps create value and sustainable employment in the area, meeting the needs of industries as closely as possible.

As part of its deployment in the greater Eastern French region, its mission is to transfer the generic technologies mastered by the CEA and to participate in the development of new industrial sectors, including the Factory of Tomorrow, by collaborating with academic institutions and by encouraging the creation of new innovative companies.

ABOUT SOCOMEC

Founded in 1922, SOCOMEC is an independent, industrial group with a workforce of 3000 people spread over 21 subsidiaries in the world. Our core business – the availability, control and safety of low voltage electrical networks with increased focus on our customers' power performance. In 2016, SOCOMEC posted an estimated turnover of 480 M€.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

SOCOMECS : Alain GAMBIA
Communications and Sustainable Development Manager
Tel.: +33 (0)3 88 57 41 38
Email : alain.gamba@socomec.com

www.socomec.com