ABB is paving the way to the “Factory of the Future” with latest robotics technologies at K 2016

Demos to showcase how Collaboration and Digitalization are ideally suited for the plastics industry.

**Friedberg, Germany (September 22, 2016)** - As manufacturing industries like plastics and rubber move from mass production to customized small lots, the flexibility to efficiently change and adapt production becomes critical. This requires increased collaboration between people and robots, between islands of automation and even between production sites. Digitalization ties it all together, where actionable information drives better decisions, and helps manufacturers unlock the benefits of ABB's concept of the Internet of Things, Services and People (IoTSP), increasing productivity, flexibility and efficiency along the manufacturing value chain.

"Significant growth in the consumption of plastics has led to it becoming an integral part of our everyday lives. And, as a result, customers are increasingly looking for ways to differentiate their products to stand out in the marketplace," says Helen Ke Feng, Global Segment Manager, Plastics and Rubber, ABB Robotics. "ABB's leading position in the plastics and rubber industry is helping its customers manage this transition towards greater product customization while opening the door to the factory of the future."

ABB will feature innovative robotic demos at the 2016 International Plastics and Rubber Industry Exhibition (K2016) from October 19 to 26 at Dusseldorf Messe in Dusseldorf. Occurring every three years, K, the world's largest plastics and rubber fair, gathers some 3,200 exhibitors under one roof for a full week. The theme of the ABB stand (Hall 12/B21) is Collaboration and Digitalization, as ABB showcases its latest technology designed to provide manufacturers the flexibility and agility necessary to open the doors to the “Factory of the Future.”

On display at K2016 will be our collaborative solution YuMi®, the world's first truly collaborative robot, and our new Connected Services platform for robots that can prevent up to 25 percent of incidents and speed response times and issue resolution by up to 60 percent. Connected Services are part of the ongoing evolution of the Remote Services for robots ABB introduced almost 10 years ago and reflect the benefits of integrating over 5,000 robots today into the IoTSP ecosystem.

**Further information for editors:**
ABB Robotics is a leading supplier of industrial robots - also providing robot software, peripheral equipment, modular manufacturing cells and service for tasks such as welding, handling, assembly, painting and finishing, picking, packing, palletizing and machine tending. Key markets include automotive, plastics, metal fabrication, foundry, electronics, machine tools, pharmaceutical and food and beverage industries. A strong solutions focus helps manufacturers improve productivity, product quality and worker safety. ABB has installed more than 300,000 robots worldwide.

All ABB Robotics' products are fully supported by the ABB Robotics' global sales and service organization in 53 countries and over 100 locations.

On display at K2016 will be ABB’s collaborative solution YuMi®, the world’s first truly collaborative robot.

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