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**FANUC Robotics Demonstrates  
High-Speed Intelligent Picking  
at 2008 ATX West Show**

**For Immediate Release**

**ROCHESTER HILLS, Mich., Jan. 29, 2008** – FANUC Robotics America, Inc. will demonstrate high-speed picking with its new LR Mate 200iC Food Option robot, and M-430iA/2F high-speed, intelligent picking robot equipped with iRVision (built-in), the new PickTool software, and the PickPRO simulation package during Automation Technology Expo (ATX), at the Anaheim Convention Center, Anaheim, Cal., Jan. 29-31, in booth #4211.

**LR Mate 200iC Food Option robot**

The new LR Mate 200iC Food Option robot is the latest member of FANUC Robotics' family of lightweight, compact mini-robots, offering 'best in class' wrist load capacity, repeatability, work envelope, and speed.

The intelligent LR Mate 200iC series of mini robots is designed to handle products in a wide range of industries and working environments, including machine shops, and medical device, food, pharmaceutical, plastics, and cleanroom manufacturing.

"The new LR Mate 200iC Food Option robot is extremely flexible and can adapt to small lot sizes, new styles and other modifications, providing customers an affordable and versatile solution," said Sumeet Vispute, product manager, picking, packing, and palletizing, FANUC Robotics America, Inc.

Slim and lightweight, the LR Mate 200iC Food Option robot can be mounted in a variety of positions including floor, tabletop, inside machines, angle and invert, which helps customers challenged with small and narrow workspaces.

The LR Mate 200iC Food Option robot offers a variety of benefits, including:

- A clean design with no food particle retention areas to resist bacteria growth and rust

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## High-Speed Intelligent Picking

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- A special coating to handle wipe-down and low-pressure rinsing and sanitizers
- Ability to work with secondary (packaged) product
- Manufactured with food-grade grease
- IP67 rating for the entire robot allows it to withstand harsh environments
- Five-axis design is 50% faster than previous mini-food robot
- Easily handles up to 5kg payload

### M-430iA/2F Food Robot

The FANUC M-430iA was recently named “Robot of the Year” for 2007 by Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI). Designed specifically for food washdown environments, the M-430iA/2F food robot is capable of picking primary food and packaged products at speeds up to 120 cycles per minute on a continuous basis while using visual line tracking. In addition, the compact robot can be mounted in a variety of positions including floor, wall or invert, which maximizes flexibility for tight workspaces.

“Our food customers came to us with specific needs for high-speed operation, increased flexibility, and cleanliness standards, and the M-430iA/2F robot meets those needs and more,” said Vispute.

The M-430iA food robot offers a wide range of benefits, including:

- A clean design with no food particle retention areas to resist bacteria growth and rust.
- Hollow arm to avoid air line and electric cable exposure
- Capable of working with primary (unpackaged) and secondary (packaged) food products.
- Manufactured with food-grade grease, and USDA-certifiable parts.
- Designed with special coating, materials and seals to withstand caustic food industry cleaners and acids used in food plant washdown operations.
- IP67 rating for the entire robot allows it to withstand the rinsing process after the caustic washdown.

“The five-axis M-430iA/2F is the fastest robot ever designed by FANUC Robotics, and sets a new speed record for articulated robots of 120 cycles per minute at a 1 kg payload, and 100 cycles per minute at a 2 kg payload,” added Vispute.

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In addition to food, the M-430*iA/2F* intelligent robot is ideal for handling beverages, medical devices, cosmetics, household products, office supplies, and many other consumer products.

At the show, an invert-mounted M-430*iA/2F* equipped with FANUC's *iR*Vision visual line tracking software will pick randomly oriented food products from an infeed conveyor and place the products on an outfeed conveyor. A second floor-mounted M-430*iA/2F*, also equipped with *iR*Vision, will pick a different food product from the same infeed conveyor and place the second product on the outfeed conveyor. Together, the M-430*iA/2F* robots will pick and place product at rates up to 220 parts per minute. An LR Mate 200*iC* Food Option robot, positioned downstream of the outfeed conveyor, picks both product types at once and places them back on the infeed conveyor at rates of 220 parts per minute with an 8-pick gripper.

### **Intelligent Software and Sensors Integrated in the LR Mate 200*iC* and M-430*iA* Food Robots**

FANUC Robotics new PickTool software is designed to simplify setup of high-speed multi-robot picking systems. PickTool divides incoming product so that each robot in the system picks an equal number of products. It can also assign a specific percentage of products for each robot to pick.

"If more than one type of product is on the conveyor, the programmer simply assigns a percentage value and a part ID to distribute each robot's picking assignments," said Vispute.

In addition, PickTool allows each robot to pick from a certain section of the conveyor. For example, it can assign half of the robots to pick from one side of the conveyor, and the other half of the robots to pick from the opposite side.

Other key benefits of PickTool include:

- Pick and/or skip any number of selected products
- Progressively fill trays or cases as they move along the conveyor
- Automatic redistribution of product to another robot if the assigned robot stops, ensuring that every product is always picked

- Single point for setup of the entire multi-robot system, making it very easy to use
- *iR*Vision eliminates the need for a PC during operation

FANUC Robotics' also offers PickPRO, the latest process-specific plug-in to ROBOGUIDE. ROBOGUIDE/PickPRO is an off-line robot simulation software with a FANUC Robotics Virtual Robot Controller and full-featured robot programming.

"PickPRO allows customers to create a multi-robot picking system in the virtual world, making programming extremely user-friendly," added Vispute.

ROBOGUIDE provides engineers the tools needed to develop and test a complete robotic application in a simulation environment without the time and costs associated with developing a prototype work cell. With ROBOGUIDE, users can simulate a robotic process in a 3D environment with the most accurate cycle time information for FANUC robots, compared to any other simulation package available in the industry.

The FANUC *iR*Vision system is a ready-to-use robotic vision package, requiring only a camera and cable – no additional processing hardware. It has a 2D robot guidance tool to accomplish part location, error proofing, and other operations that normally require special sensors or custom fixtures.

FANUC Robotics America, Inc. designs, engineers and manufactures industrial robots and robotic systems for a wide range of applications including arc and spot welding, material handling (machine tending, picking, packing, palletizing), material removal, assembly, paint finishing and dispensing. The company also provides application-specific software, controls, vision products, and complete support services. After 25 years of success, FANUC Robotics maintains its position as the leading robotics company in the Americas. A subsidiary of FANUC LTD in Japan, the company has facilities in Chicago; Los Angeles; Charlotte, N.C.; Cincinnati and Toledo, Ohio; Toronto; Montreal; Aguascalientes, Mexico; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. Over 180,000 FANUC robots are installed worldwide. Contact FANUC Robotics at [www.fanucrobotics.com](http://www.fanucrobotics.com) or by calling 248-377-7000.

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