



MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION

7-3, Marunouchi 2-chome, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 100-8310 Japan

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Customer Inquiries

Overseas Marketing Department Factory Automation Systems Group Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

www.MitsubishiElectric.com/fa/support www.MitsubishiElectric.com/fa

No. 3354

Media Inquiries

Takeyoshi Komatsu Public Relations Division Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Tel: +81-3-3218-2346 prd.gnews@nk.MitsubishiElectric.co.jp www.MitsubishiElectric.com/news/

Mitsubishi Electric Launches MELFA ASSISTA Series of Collaborative Robots

Intuitive programming tool enables fast system startup and reduced TCO

TOKYO, May 20, 2020 – <u>Mitsubishi Electric Corporation</u> (TOKYO: 6503) announced today that on May 21 it will launch its MELFA ASSISTA series of robots that work collaboratively with humans based on safety features such as collision detection and strict compliance with the international safety and robotic standards ISO 10218-1 and ISO/TS15066. The series also will introduce an intuitive engineering software, RT VisualBox, for quick, easy system deployment. Customers will use MELFA ASSISTA and RT VisualBox to realize more efficient production, reduce the total cost of ownership (TCO) of robotic manufacturing systems, and meet new needs for adequate distancing of workers in manufacturing sites.





MELFA ASSISTA Series collaborative robot

RT VisualBox robot engineering software

Key Features

- 1) Simplified application development using intuitive flow-chart programing
 - The RT VisualBox programming tool developed by Mitsubishi Electric enables operating sequences to be created intuitively by linking block diagrams in a chain of events, including connection with other devices such as robot hands and cameras. Fast program-development and design time help to reduce system TCO.

2) Fast robot setup time via dedicated control panel

- Robot movements can be taught and recorded quickly via a dedicated control panel on the robot arm, doing away with separate teaching boxes^{*} required for conventional industrial robots.
- The control panel features a simple design with a minimum number of buttons for simplicity, enabling even inexperienced users without expert knowledge of robots to set up the system with ease.

* Input and control devices for creating, recording and deploying movement programs

3) Easy monitoring of robot status via LED light

- A bright LED light that uses different colors to indicate the status of the robot is located conveniently on the robot arm for easy viewing, helping to lower TCO by eliminating the need for conventional monitoring devices.

Release Schedule

Product	Model	Specification	Release	Yearly Sales Target
MELFA ASSISTA Collaborative Robot	RV-5AS-D	5kg load capacity and 6-axis movement	May 21, 2020	1,000 units
RT VisualBox Engineering Software	3G-30C-WINJ/E	Windows 10 compatible		1,000 sets

Background

Industrial robots are being adopted for the manufacture of electronic, automotive, pharmaceutical, food & beverage, sanitary, etc. products. In addition, robots that enable human-robot collaboration are also expected to attract growing attention in helping to meet new requirements for adequate distancing of workers in manufacturing sites. In response, Mitsubishi Electric is now releasing its MELFA ASSISTA series of collaborative robots and accompanying RT VisualBox engineering software, which together will enable companies to install and set up robotic systems fast, intuitively and relatively inexpensively, and respond flexibly to rapidly changing business environments and social needs.



Dedicated control panel on robot arm enables robot movements to be taught and recorded easily



Bright LED light clearly indicates robot status

Other Features

Certified peripheral devices such as electric grippers and cameras can be connected easily using RT VisualBox. The lineup of certified companies and connectable devices will be expanded to enhance the applicability of the MELFA ASSISTA series.

Compliance with International Standards

MELFA ASSISTA complies with international standards such as the ISO 10218-1 general safety requirement for industrial robots and the ISO/TS 15066 technical specification for collaborative robots. Compliance with the functional safety standards of another leading international certification body is also planned for further reliability.

Also, MELFA ASSISTA series robots can optionally use NSF H1 food-grade lubricant approved by the U.S. National Sanitation Foundation for the production of food & beverage products.

Contribution to the Environment

The products announced in this release will contribute to the environment by helping to reduce energy consumption through optimized manufacturing.

Other company and product names mentioned in this text are trademarks or registered trademarks of each respective organization.

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About Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

With nearly 100 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TOKYO: 6503) is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, energy, transportation and building equipment. Mitsubishi Electric enriches society with technology in the spirit of its corporate statement, "Changes for the Better," and environmental statement, "Eco Changes." The company recorded a revenue of 4,462.5 billion yen (U.S.\$ 40.9 billion*) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2020. For more information, please visit www.MitsubishiElectric.com

*U.S. dollar amounts are translated from yen at the rate of ¥109=U.S.\$1, the approximate rate on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market on March 31, 2020