

PHOTOS

Plug-and-play for factories



((01_Olaf_Sauer_IOSB.jpg))

"Instead of waiting like in the past for the engineering company to deliver the machine and install it in the designated place in the production hall, a manufacturer can perform numerous tests using a digital twin with the virtual machine," said Dr. Olaf Sauer, Deputy Head of Institute, Business Unit Automation and Digitalisation, Fraunhofer Institute for Optronics, System Technologies and Image Exploitation (IOSB).

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((02_Schunk_Grosshubgreifer.jpg))

Customised with a few clicks: the automation specialist Schunk SE & Co. KG wants to reduce complexity in plant planning through individually configurable standard products. Thanks to its large jaw stroke, the PLG long-stroke gripper can cover a large number of workpieces with just one set of gripper fingers. It can be individualised with the aid of an online tool. The digital twins are also available for these individual products in a few minutes.



((03_Schunk_Werkzeughalter.jpg))

Tool holder individually configured: the automation specialist Schunk SE & Co. KG presents a new digital tool – the easyToolholder configurator. This configurator can also be used to adapt standard tool holders online to their particular machining task. The digital twin is also available ad hoc for individually adapted products.



((04_Jakob_Trauer_EM.jpg))

"A digital twin offers a great deal of potential," said Jakob Trauer, Senior IT Consultant at EM Engineering Methods AG in Darmstadt. "For example, factory layouts can be virtually tested and optimised, maintenance operations can be predicted or quality costs can be reduced since a digital twin enables a virtual inspection to be performed with all automated countermeasures."

Photo: Technical University of Munich