



Robot-based friction stir welding for e-mobility: KUKA receives order from DONGHEE

Augsburg, 6 August 2019 – KUKA received an order in the single-digit million euro range from the Korean automotive supplier DONGHEE Industrial Co., Ltd. The order was booked in the 2nd quarter of 2019.

DONGHEE relies on robot-based friction stir welding from KUKA in the area of e-mobility. The technology is being used at different Hyundai plants for the production of battery carriers – finding use, among other places, in the KONA electric vehicle model. Here, automation specialist KUKA supplies robotic equipment for the process-reliable joining of components made of different aluminum alloys.

Together, DONGHEE's expertise in the machining of aluminum components and the robot-supported friction stir welding cell supplied by KUKA create the necessary conditions for the successful production of battery supports. A production system developed for this purpose has been running in series production for over a year at a Korean plant of DONGHEE. Now a master contract has been signed for the supply of further systems for the production of Hyundai electric vehicles.

The future is in electromobility

Sales of electric cars and hybrid vehicles are steadily increasing. But vehicle range and performance are not the only important factors for sales. The selling price is also key. This is why there is also a focus on cost-effective production. KUKA customers profit from years of process expertise in friction stir welding.

KUKA

Contact:

Katrin Stuber-Koeppe
Press Spokesperson
Head of Corporate
Communications

T +49 821 797 3722
F +49 821 797 5213

press@kuka.com
twitter.com/KUKA_press
blog.kuka.com

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KUKA is a global automation corporation with sales of around EUR 3.2 billion and around 14,200 employees. As a leading global supplier of intelligent automation solutions KUKA offers its customers everything from a single source: from robots and cells to fully automated systems and their networking in markets such as automotive, electronics, general industry, consumer goods, e-commerce/retail and healthcare. The KUKA Group is headquartered in Augsburg, Germany. (31.12.2018)