



Pressemitteilung Press Release

# Medical Robotics Challenge 2.0: Apply now for the KUKA Innovation Award 2025

Augsburg, March 13, 2024 – The new round of the KUKA Innovation Award is all about robotics ideas for the future of medicine and healthcare. The finalists can look forward to a professional appearance at a major trade fair – and €20,000 in prize money for the winner. Teams can now apply with their innovative ideas.

New technologies relating to robotics and digitization enable gentler and better treatment in medicine and healthcare and help to meet challenges such as demographic change or a shortage of skilled workers. "Robotics has made its way into the healthcare sector and is indispensable today," says Axel Weber, Vice President of the Medical Robotics business unit at KUKA. "This applies to everything from diagnostics and surgical procedures on patients to therapy. The possible applications are extremely diverse."

The motto of the new round of the KUKA Innovation Award is therefore "Medical Robotics Challenge 2.0", with the focus on robotics concepts for diagnosis, rehabilitation, surgery, and many other forms of therapy. The applicants should look into the future of medicine with innovative and interactive methods to improve health and care.

## Major appearance at an international trade fair

An international jury will select the best ideas from all the entries. To implement their concepts, KUKA will provide the finalists with the KUKA Cobot LBR Med for the duration of the competition, which can be expanded with an NDI tracking system or a Roboception 3D vision system. The sensitive LBR Med is specially adapted to medical requirements and is particularly suitable for versatile assistance systems in medical technology thanks to its ability for human-robot collaboration.

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The final teams will present their concepts to an international audience of experts at a major trade fair in 2025. The jury will then select the winner of the 20,000 euro Innovation Award.

## The KUKA Innovation Award celebrates its anniversary

KUKA launched the Innovation Award exactly ten years ago. The aim of the robotics competition is to accelerate innovation and strengthen the transfer of technology from research to industry. The award is aimed at developers, graduates and research teams from companies or universities.

## **KUKA**

KUKA is a global automation corporation with sales of around 4 billion euro and around 15,000 employees. The company is headquartered in Augsburg, Germany. As one of the world's leading suppliers of intelligent automation solutions, KUKA offers customers everything they need from a single source. From robots and cells to fully automated systems and their connectivity in markets such as automotive with a focus on e-mobility & battery, electronics, metal & plastic, consumer goods, e-commerce, retail and healthcare.