

Fraunhofer Institute for Casting, Composite and Processing Technology IGCV

Pantomime Cleaning Process of Casting Parts using Robotics and Optical-Motion-Tracking (OMT)

Pantomime Cleaning Process of Casting Parts ©Fraunhofer IGCV

In the foundry industry, the current method of manual casting cleaning (Gating and feeder system as well as casting flash removed with angle grinder, pneumatic chisel and hammer) is increasingly no longer implementable due to extremely unattractive work conditions and the personnel shortage, or can only be implemented with increased costs or declining quality. The market urgently needs a casting cleaning cell where skilled workers can use their expert knowledge in a familiar way without the need for additional programming skills.

Research hypothesis: »Skilled workers without programming skills can also teach a robot to clean castings.«



manual clieaning is unattractive ©123rf

Cleaning process for pantomime casting cleaning

A skilled worker performs the necessary cleaning steps with a much lighter dummy-tool in a clean and quiet environment. These are recorded by the OMT system and automatically translated into robot instructions by software. The actual mechanical cleaning process of casting parts takes place by a robot after cooperative process. By shifting the strenuous cleaning work to the robot, the work conditions become much more attractive, and at the same time, in an aging workforce, a greater supply of personnel can be drawn upon. In addition, the expert knowledge of the existing personnel is utilized and retained, as they continue to carry out the processes with which they are familiar.



pantomimie cleaning is attractive ©Fraunhofer IGCV

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