

PRESS RELEASE

2019-01-30  
For Immediate Use

## Whose Factory of the Future is it anyway?



### A factory of the future that is unique to you

With Industry 4.0 revolutionizing the world of manufacturing, it is essential for facilities (large and small) to keep up to see if they want to remain competitive.

Increase cost pressures, heightened quality standards and shorter lead times are just a handful of expectations now placed on the industry. That makes efficient working practices more important than ever before.

As a result, the Factory of the Future is what everybody is speculating. How can factories evolve to accommodate the varying demands placed on them? How can existing legacy equipment be brought into the realm of the smart factory? How can small manufacturers keep up without undergoing a complete digital overhaul?

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### **Achieving competitive advantage through flexibility**

Think about your existing factory and the only fixed elements are the walls, floors and ceilings. Everything else is mobile, with modular assembly lines and machines that freely adapt to new purposes. That variability delivers a competitive advantage for manufacturers, and tangible benefits for their customers.

For manufacturers that are operating in a more competitive global marketplace than ever before, enhancing levels of quality and elevating affordability by decreasing overheads is even more crucial. The good news is that the Factory of the Future makes all of this possible.

### **A future for small manufacturers**

For smaller manufacturers in particular, finding the right solution to their needs is critical. Their concerns are more immediate than those of larger manufacturers, and generating efficiencies or lowering overheads could be the difference between success and stagnation in a fast-paced, digital environment.

The key is to remain agile, creating smart factory that allows production lines to be easily reconfigured so that facilities can adapt to fast-changing requirements.

That is where small manufacturers have a significant advantage. With less infrastructure, shorter chains of command and fewer layers to production methodologies, changes can be adopted easily. Once in place, manufacturers have the ability to be more agile than ever before.

### **Keeping an eye on ROI**

Before you make any changes, making sure they deliver the impact you need is crucial. With configurator technology from Bosch Rexroth, manufacturers can create a virtual replica of their entire facility (essentially a testbed for any new solutions). From there, processes can be mimicked so that any new products can be assessed before being implemented, equipping manufacturers with detailed insights into how their facility could be improved.

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Once implemented in the Factory of the Future, all hardware modules and functions can be represented digitally in real-time. Sophisticated software can collect, transfer and process data to continuously improve processes and facilitate machine learning. Wireless technology has the potential to mobilize machines and plants, with inductive charging and 5G connectivity making for faster and more stable means of data transfer.

In practice, that means simplified conversions to new processes for maximum flexibility. Production configures itself independently in-line with the product to be manufactured, communication between machines and systems is wireless and production layouts are optimized for greater efficiency. Coupled with real-time data capture and analysis, continuous improvement becomes reality.

With all that flexibility, the Factory of the Future is an entirely adaptable place, perfectly positioning manufacturers to create products of enormous variety while maintaining constantly high standards of quality.

That combination makes every manufacturer unique, delivering an undeniable edge when competing on the world stage – something made possible by the digitalization of the industry.

Discover more about the Factory of the Future [here](#)

### **About Bosch Rexroth**

*As one of the world's leading suppliers of drive and control technologies, Bosch Rexroth ensures efficient, powerful and safe movement in machines and systems of any size. The company bundles global application experience in the market segments of Mobile Applications, Machinery Applications and Engineering, and Factory Automation. With its intelligent components, customized system solutions and services, Bosch Rexroth is creating the necessary environment for fully connected applications. Bosch Rexroth offers its customers hydraulics, electric drive and control technology, gear technology and linear motion and assembly technology, including software and interfaces to the Internet of Things. With locations in over 80 countries, more than 30,500 associates generated sales revenue of 5.5 billion euros in 2017.*

To learn more, please visit [www.boschrexroth.ca](http://www.boschrexroth.ca)

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**About Bosch**

*Having established a regional presence in 1906 in North America, the Bosch Group employs nearly 34,500 associates in more than 100 locations, as of December 31, 2017. In 2017 Bosch generated consolidated sales of \$13.7 billion in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. For more information, visit [www.bosch.ca](http://www.bosch.ca)*

*The Bosch Group is a leading global supplier of technology and services. It employs roughly 402,000 associates worldwide (as of December 31, 2017). The company generated sales of 78.1 billion euros (\$88.2 billion) in 2017. Its operations are divided into four business sectors: Mobility Solutions, Industrial Technology, Consumer Goods, and Energy and Building Technology. As a leading IoT company, Bosch offers innovative solutions for smart homes, smart cities, connected mobility, and connected manufacturing. It uses its expertise in sensor technology, software, and services, as well as its own IoT cloud, to offer its customers connected, cross-domain solutions from a single source. The Bosch Group's strategic objective is to deliver innovations for a connected life. Bosch improves quality of life worldwide with products and services that are innovative and spark enthusiasm. In short, Bosch creates technology that is "Invented for life." The Bosch Group comprises Robert Bosch GmbH and its roughly 440 subsidiary and regional companies in 60 countries. Including sales and service partners, Bosch's global manufacturing, engineering, and sales network covers nearly every country in the world. The basis for the company's future growth is its innovative strength. At 125 locations across the globe, Bosch employs some 64,500 associates in research and development.*

*Additional information is available online at [www.bosch.com](http://www.bosch.com), [www.iot.bosch.com](http://www.iot.bosch.com), [www.bosch-press.com](http://www.bosch-press.com), [www.twitter.com/BoschPresse](https://www.twitter.com/BoschPresse).*

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