# Vision-Guided Robots “See” Floor

Automation and robotics catalyze labor savings by sparing skilled workers from certain material-handling applications.?
When you think of state-of-the-art plant technology, automation and robotics are typically at the forefront of innovation. Take, for example, the GT3, recently unveiled by Seegrid Corp. This new gadget, says Seegrid, is the first vision-guided industrial mobile robot designed for material-handling applications.

The GT3 is designed to move pallets and other materials without wire guides, magnets or lasers. Key benefits relate back to labor savings, as these are designed to free up skilled employees by taking care of such tasks as delivering palletized materials, pulling carts and positioning supplies in tight areas. The GT3 tugs carts up to 3,000 lbs.

Rockwell Automation’s MicroLogix PLC is integrated into the robot’s hardware to control and monitor power and hardware components, such as the SICK proximity sensor, the contact bumper and the emergency-stop function. The PLC immediately stops the robot and shuts down the motor if the SICK proximity sensor, contact bumper or emergency-stop function are engaged.

Once the obstacle is cleared, the robot automatically resumes along its designated path, thereby promoting worker and plant safety.

The contact bumper and emergency stop button are hard-wired to the PLC. If either comes in contact with an obstacle, the PLC immediately shuts off the motor and hard-stops the robot. Human intervention is required to restart the robot. The emergency stop button is also hard wired to the PLC. If an operator presses it, the PLC immediately shuts down the robot. Human intervention is again required to restart the robot to resume its journey.

The G Series also includes Seegrid’s GP8 pallet truck, designed for automating the long-haul transfer of pallets, with a load capacity of up to 8,000 lbs. Additional features of both G Series models include:

In addition to the G Series from Seegrid, many other automated systems and robotics are available to increase the productivity in your processing plant. Examples include: pick-and-place equipment, palletizers, automatic guided vehicles, automated storage and retrieval systems, conveyors, hoists, winches, lifts, parts feeders and much, much more.
More information is available by contacting Seegrid Corp. at info@seegrid.com or by visiting www.seegrid.com.

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