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## Robots and robotic devices — Collaborative robots

*Robots et dispositifs robotiques — Robots coopératifs*



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# Contents

Page

<b>Foreword</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1 Scope</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2 Normative references</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3 Terms and definitions</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4 Collaborative industrial robot system design</b>	<b>2</b>
4.1 General	2
4.2 Collaborative application design	3
4.3 Hazard identification and risk assessment	4
4.3.1 General	4
4.3.2 Hazard identification	4
4.3.3 Task identification	5
4.3.4 Hazard elimination and risk reduction	5
<b>5 Requirements for collaborative robot system applications</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1 General	6
5.2 Safety-related control system performance	6
5.3 Design of the collaborative workspace	6
5.4 Design of the collaborative robot operation	6
5.4.1 General	6
5.4.2 Protective measures	6
5.4.3 Stopping functions	6
5.4.4 Transitions between non-collaborative operation and collaborative operation	7
5.4.5 Enabling device requirements	7
5.5 Collaborative operations	7
5.5.1 General	7
5.5.2 Safety-rated monitored stop	8
5.5.3 Hand guiding	9
5.5.4 Speed and separation monitoring	10
5.5.5 Power and force limiting	15
<b>6 Verification and validation</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>7 Information for use</b>	<b>19</b>
7.1 General	19
7.2 Information specific to collaborative robot operations	19
7.3 Description of the collaborative robot system	19
7.4 Description of the workplace application	19
7.5 Description of the work task	20
7.6 Information specific to power and force limiting applications	20
<b>Annex A (informative) Limits for quasi-static and transient contact</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>33</b>

## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

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For an explanation on the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

The committee responsible for this document is Technical Committee ISO/TC 299, *Robots and robotic devices*.

This Technical Specification is relevant only in conjunction with the safety requirements for collaborative industrial robot operation described in ISO 10218-1 and ISO 10218-2.

## Introduction

The objective of collaborative robots is to combine the repetitive performance of robots with the individual skills and ability of people. People have an excellent capability for solving imprecise exercises; robots exhibit precision, power and endurance.

To achieve safety, robotic applications traditionally exclude operator access to the operations area while the robot is active. Therefore, a variety of operations requiring human intervention often cannot be automated using robot systems.

This Technical Specification provides guidance for collaborative robot operation where a robot system and people share the same workspace. In such operations, the integrity of the safety-related control system is of major importance, particularly when process parameters such as speed and force are being controlled.

A comprehensive risk assessment is required to assess not only the robot system itself, but also the environment in which it is placed, i.e. the workplace. When implementing applications in which people and robot systems collaborate, ergonomic advantages can also result, e.g. improvements of worker posture.

This Technical Specification supplements and supports the industrial robot safety standards ISO 10218-1 and ISO 10218-2, and provides additional guidance on the identified operational functions for collaborative robots.

The collaborative operations described in this Technical Specification are dependent upon the use of robots meeting the requirements of ISO 10218-1 and their integration meeting the requirements of ISO 10218-2.

**NOTE** Collaborative operation is a developing field. The values for power and force limiting stated in this Technical Specification are expected to evolve in future editions.