



MRG WIRE

Robotics Industry Insights

What's driving robotics forward
in the lab, on the line, and in the market.

Welcome to the August 2025 edition of Robotics Industry Insights. This month, we're looking past the hardware to focus on the human element that truly drives success. We explore the single greatest operational risk that automation can't solve, and then dive into the latest market numbers to reveal a surprising shift in where the industry's real growth is coming from.

Your Biggest Risk Isn't Your New Robot. It's the Person Who Knows How to Fix the Old One.

What if the biggest threat to your multi-million dollar automation strategy wasn't a flaw in the technology, but a name on a retirement list?

This isn't a hypothetical. It's the reality facing an industry grappling with a quiet but critical challenge: the loss of "tribal knowledge." A recent report in [Robotics and Automation News](#) underscores the scale of the problem, pointing to over 600,000 unfilled manufacturing jobs converging with a wave of Baby Boomer retirements.



The instinct is to solve this with more technology, assuming a state of the art cobot can simply replace the work of an experienced team. But that approach overlooks a dangerous reality. In a recent [Assembly Magazine](#) feature, ABI Research analyst Michael Larner cautions that "improving mentoring and knowledge sharing processes are just as important as

investments in digital technologies". A new robot may be brilliant at its specific task, but it has no understanding of the upstream and downstream quirks of a 40 year old facility, a context that a veteran understands intuitively.



The most strategic leaders, however, are shifting their focus to the people. They are investing in solutions like the highly effective, hands on apprenticeship programs spotlighted by [Industrial Equipment News](#), which successfully capture and transfer tribal knowledge through real, on the floor learning.

The challenge, therefore, isn't just about replacing a person. It is re-architecting how your organization values, captures, and transfers its most vital asset: the decades of experience held by your people.



| Industry Insight

After a slow 2024, the North American robotics market showed a healthy rebound in the first half of 2025, but the most telling sign of the recovery isn't just the overall growth. While the automotive sector bounced back, a different set of industries quietly took the lead, signaling a major shift in the automation landscape.

[See which industries are surging ahead →](#)





| Expert Tip

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