

**NEWS RELEASE**

[Witt-NR-06-2016\_R9-robot-control]

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016**The new WITTMANN R9 robot control**

*In the past few years the WITTMANN Group has successfully concentrated on new developments relating to injection molding machine controls. Now, following the successful launch of the **W8 pro** robot series, the company is set to present the new **R9** robot control at the K 2016 exhibition. The **R9** is a complete revision of the **R8** control and from 2017 onwards, all WITTMANN robots will come with the new **R9 TeachBox**.*



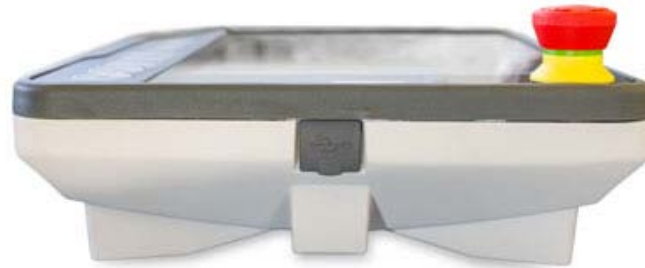
**R9 robot control from WITTMANN**

There are no fundamental differences with regard to the handling of the two controls, but certain features have been simplified or improved, namely; accessibility, customization, and axial movement. The entire hardware of the **R9** has also undergone a complete relaunch.

The most obvious difference is the altered shape of the **TeachBox**. Previously the plugged panorama screen had a resolution of 800 × 600 and a size of 8.4". The **TeachBox R9** now comes with a resolution of 1,280 × 800 and a screen diagonal of 10.1". The new screen comes in portrait format and the look of the control now comes closer to that of the **UNILOG** machine control. The expanded screen of the **R9** robot control is better suitable for the display of complex procedures. The combination of hardened glass and capacitive touch-technology also provides a higher mechanical stability than the former model. Above that, the new **R9** solution offers the possibility of gesture operation.

Beside the generously dimensioned touch-display, WITTMANN the **R9** robot control is equipped with membrane keys, enabling visual and tactile feedback: For

example, the start button of the **R9 TeachBox** is illuminated in green. Other press buttons are organized in a similar way and they are distinguished also through their shapes; status buttons are rectangular, for example, while motion buttons are round, representing one of the most important innovations in the new unit and making operational use much simpler. The **R9** has an On/Off-signal (an illuminated WITTMANN logo in case of active power supply), a central enabling switch on the back side, and a USB port.



*USB port at the head end of the R9 control*

Because of the specially designed back frame component, the **TeachBox** is naturally angled towards the operator, a feature designed for convenience, especially when complex systems are to be programmed. This angle of inclination – for example, when the control lies on a table – is about 5°, resulting in better readability and a more comfortable input.

Users operating large automation cells can opt for a second **TeachBox**. For example, when the robot is mounted lengthwise and executing the part drop behind the clamping unit of the machine, then one of the two controls can be placed by the machine control, while the other can be placed in the drop zone. In this way, the irritating journey around the machine with the **TeachBox** is omitted. The production data can, of course, be called up from both devices.

“What really makes the **R9** so exciting for us is its tactile feedback,” says Martin Stammhammer, WITTMANN Group’s International Sales Manager Robots and Automation Systems. “In contrast to touch-only programming, we have chosen a combination of touch- and key-functionality. So, by means of the so-called concept of *Touch & Feel*, we offer an input procedure that again is more comfortable and can be done more intuitively. The **R9** has better ergonomics, a larger display and reduced weight. The total weight of the TeachBox now is 10% less than before.”

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The WITTMANN Group is a worldwide leader in the manufacturing of injection molding machines, robots and peripheral equipment for the plastics industry. Headquartered in Vienna/Austria, the WITTMANN Group consists of two main divisions, WITTMANN BATTENFELD and WITTMANN, which operate 9 production facilities in 6 countries, including 30 direct subsidiary offices located in all major plastics markets around the world.

WITTMANN BATTENFELD focuses on the independent market growth in the manufacturing of state-of-the-art injection molding machines and process technology, providing a modern and comprehensive range of machinery in a modular design that meets the actual and future requirements of the plastic injection molding market.

WITTMANN's product range includes robots and automation systems, material handling systems, dryers, gravimetric and volumetric blenders, granulators, mold temperature controllers and chillers. With this comprehensive range of peripheral equipment, WITTMANN can provide plastics processors with solutions that cover all production requirements, ranging from autonomous work cells to integrated plant-wide systems.

The syndication of the WITTMANN Group has led to connectivity between all product lines, providing the advantage plastics processors have been looking for in terms of a seamless integration of injection molding machines, automation and auxiliary equipment – all occurring at a progressive rate.

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Düsseldorf – October 19<sup>th</sup>–26<sup>th</sup>, 2016

WITTMANN at K Show: hall 10, booth A04