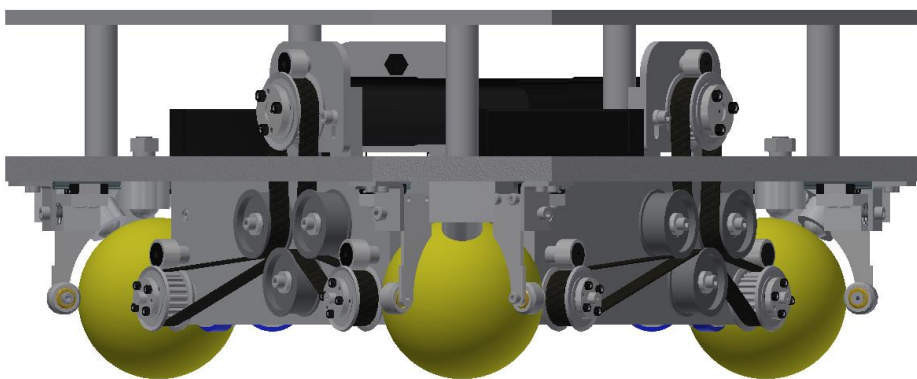


## Introduction to ball-driven omnidirectional movement mechanism



Sensing System Research Center

Production process evaluation research team

Shuichi Ishida

# 2020 University New Industry Creation Program (JST)Selected project

## project overview:

A movable device that uses balls instead of wheels.**ball driven**We will develop an omnidirectional movement device. As a trolley for efficient operation of human collaborative robots, transportation robots, AGVs, etc.

Unique in the world**industrial****A venture company that manufactures and sells omnidirectional movement devices.**We aim to establish a company.

## Project members:

Associate Professor Miyamoto  
(Research Representative)

Specially Appointed Professor Rikitake

Kyushu Institute of Technology

Chief Researcher Ishida  
(Main joint researcher)

Korenaga Research Group Leader  
Chief Researcher Mano  
Koga Technical Staff

National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology

Yamaguchi Executive Vice President

Sasaki Manager  
(Business promoter)

FEG Venture Business Partners Co., Ltd.

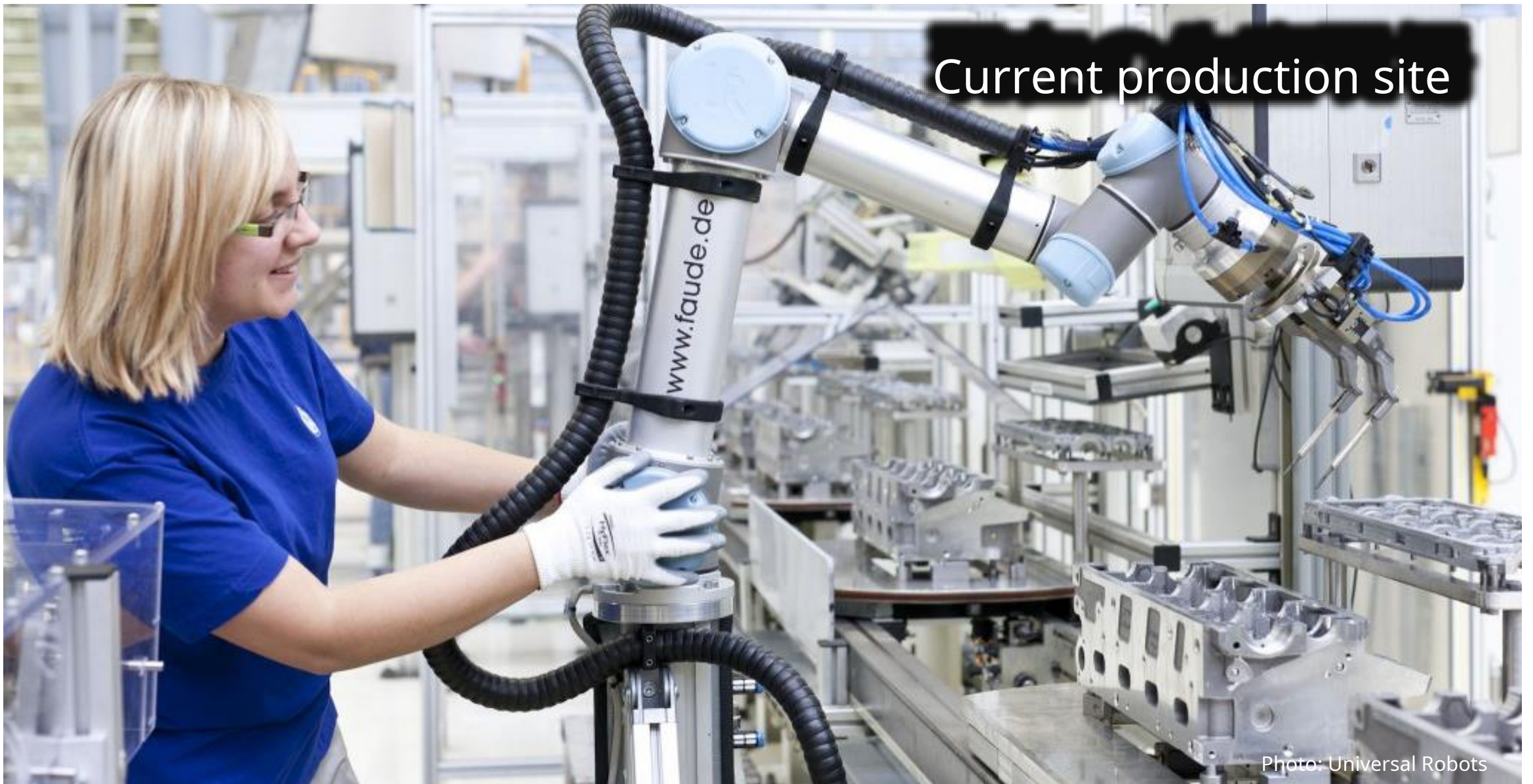
Project period budget: 2020.11.5 - 2023.3.31, After project completion: Plan to start a venture  
Project budget: ¥117,000,000



Photo:  
<https://twitter.com/konotarogomame/status/1161623597468680193>

with people isolation was done Stationary type industrial robot





Current production site

Photo: Universal Robots

with people same space work with Stationary type collaborative robot

FANUC



Kawasaki Heavy Industries



Mitsubishi Electric



coexist with people **walk around** Expectations for collaborative robots



KUKA



Yaskawa Electric



Mitsubishi Electric

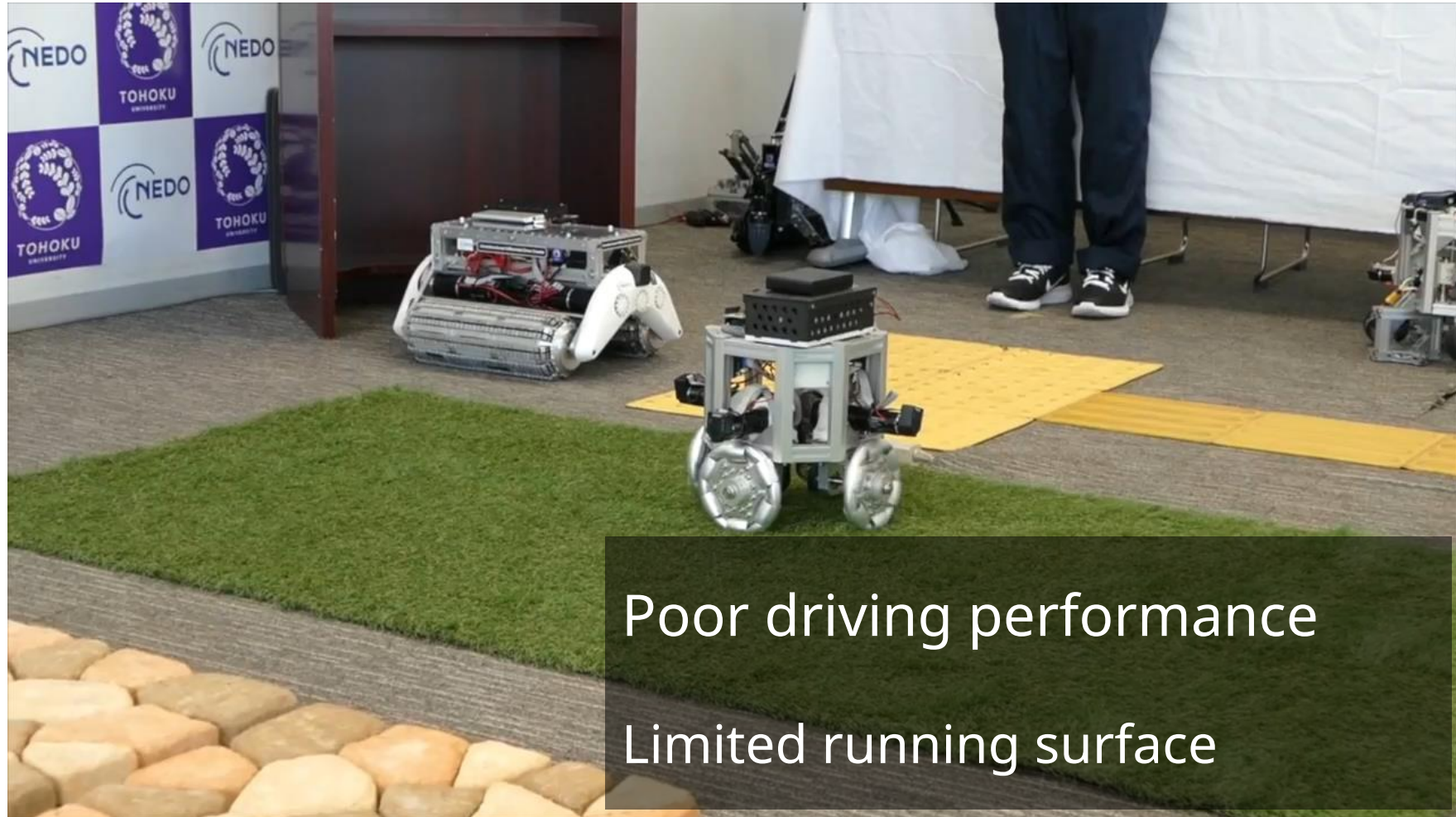


# There is virtually no choice other than the free method.



free method  
Omni Mecanum

Vector composition control based on



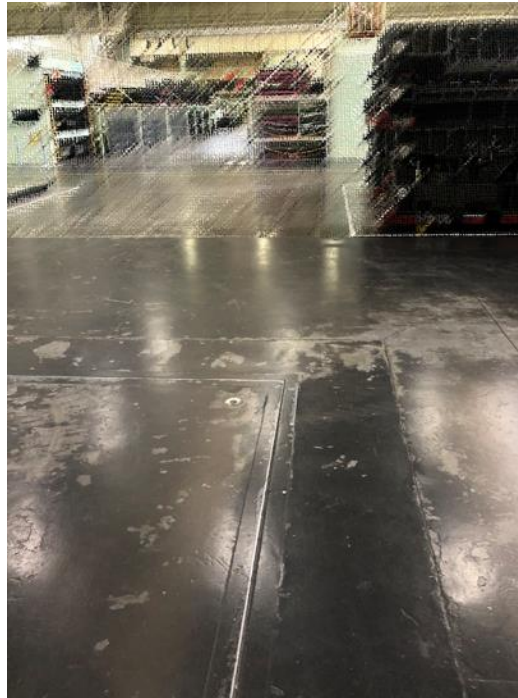
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eTIWaCIstM>

# The running surface at the production site is not flat.

Operating while building and maintaining the building → Optimized for people, not kind to robots



Floor paint peeling off



Renovation ruins



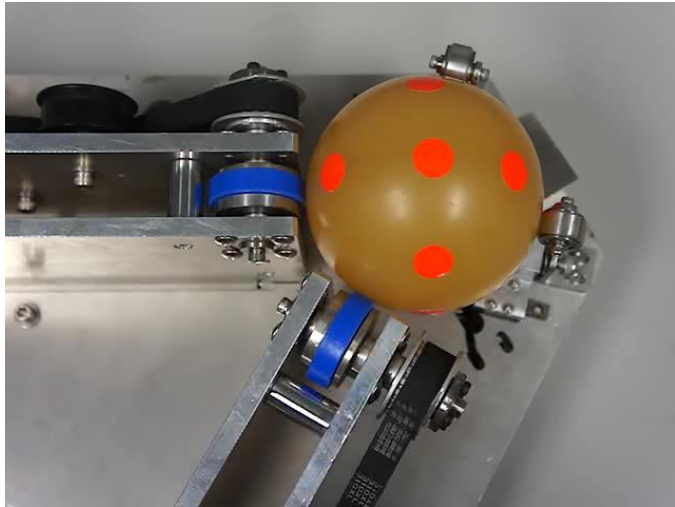
Piping/metal plate

In existing facilities, environments such as steps and flooring materials vary.

There is a need for a movement mechanism that runs stably and with high precision.



# Solution: Omnidirectional movement using spheres



Ball drive system



Pressure drive

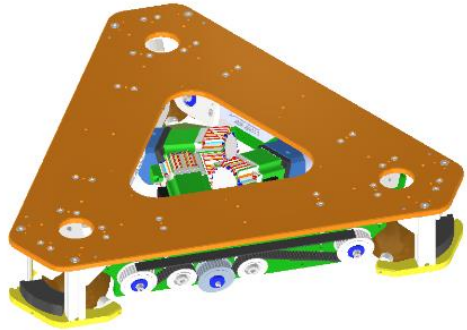


Stable running even against disturbances

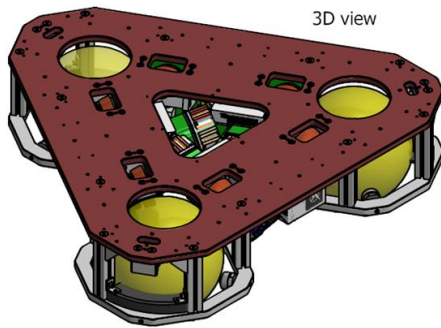




# Advantages of ball drive mechanism



Sphere  $\Phi 100\text{mm} \times 3$   
size: 663 x 584 x 136mm



Sphere  $\Phi 200\text{mm} \times 3$   
size: 730 x 680 x 200mm

## High running stability

Stops suddenly and is not affected by uneven floors, etc.

## Contribution to sensing

Smooth rotation of a sphere: images (cameras), range sensors, etc.

sphere

Ball material: collaboration with material manufacturers, tribology evaluation

High degree of freedom of movement and easy route planning

Existing programs can also be used

## low cost

Simple structure and small number of parts

## Low floor/low center of gravity

Can be integrated into existing equipment without modification

Relaxing constraints on trolley height and increasing design freedom

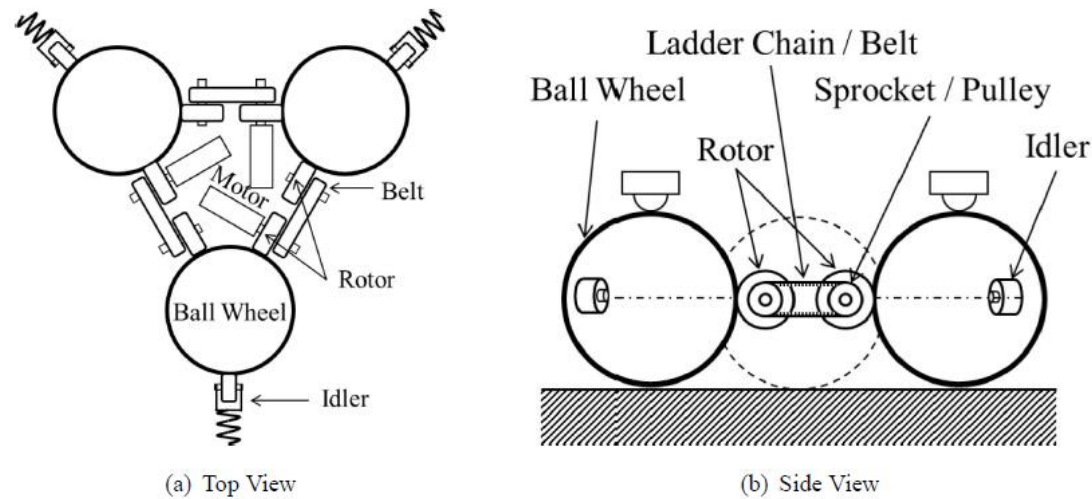
# Intellectual property right

Basic patent: Ball-driven omnidirectional movement device

Patent No. 5305285

Inventor: Hiroyuki Miyamoto, Shuichi Ishida

Applicant: Kyushu Institute of Technology, July 25, 2008



- Key points of this basic patent

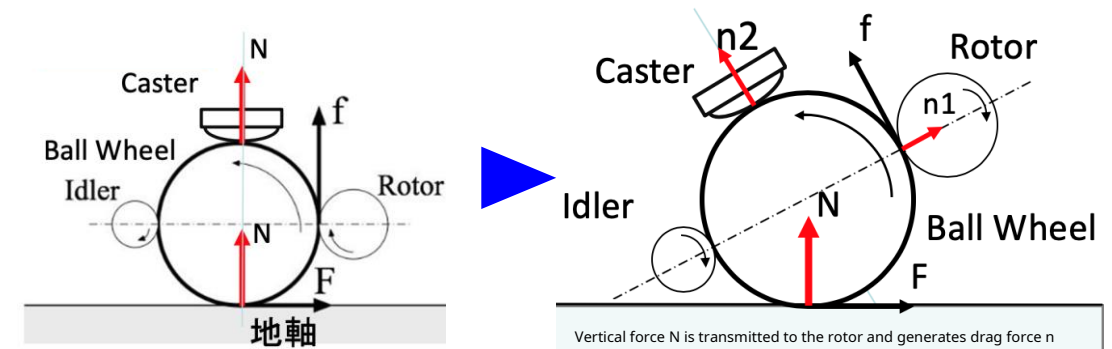
There must be three driving means that rotate and drive the driving spheres placed next to each other in the same direction at the same time.

Enhanced patent: Ball-driven moving device

PCT/JP2019/043715(WO2020/110651A1)

Inventor: Hiroyuki Miyamoto, Yoshiki Matsumoto

Applicant: Kyushu Institute of Technology, November 7, 2020



- Key points for PCT application

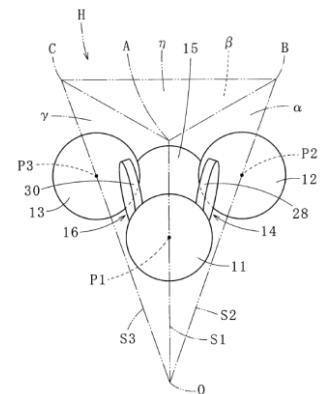
- Problem of rotation after non-contact occurs
- virtual inverted n-pyramid invented the concept of
- From the center of the sphere that each rotating body touches  
This solves the problem by allowing contact at a high position.

- patent search

2020.6 Intellectual property office NEXPAT

2021.3 AI patent simulation system

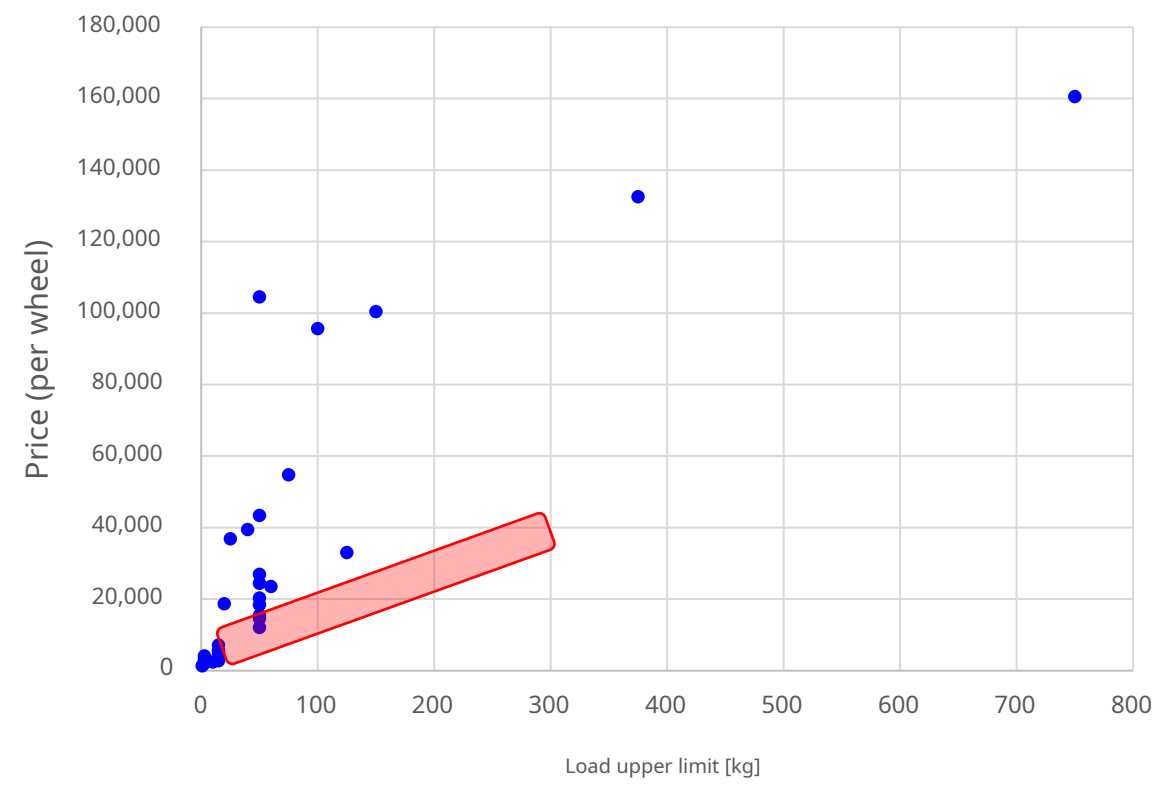
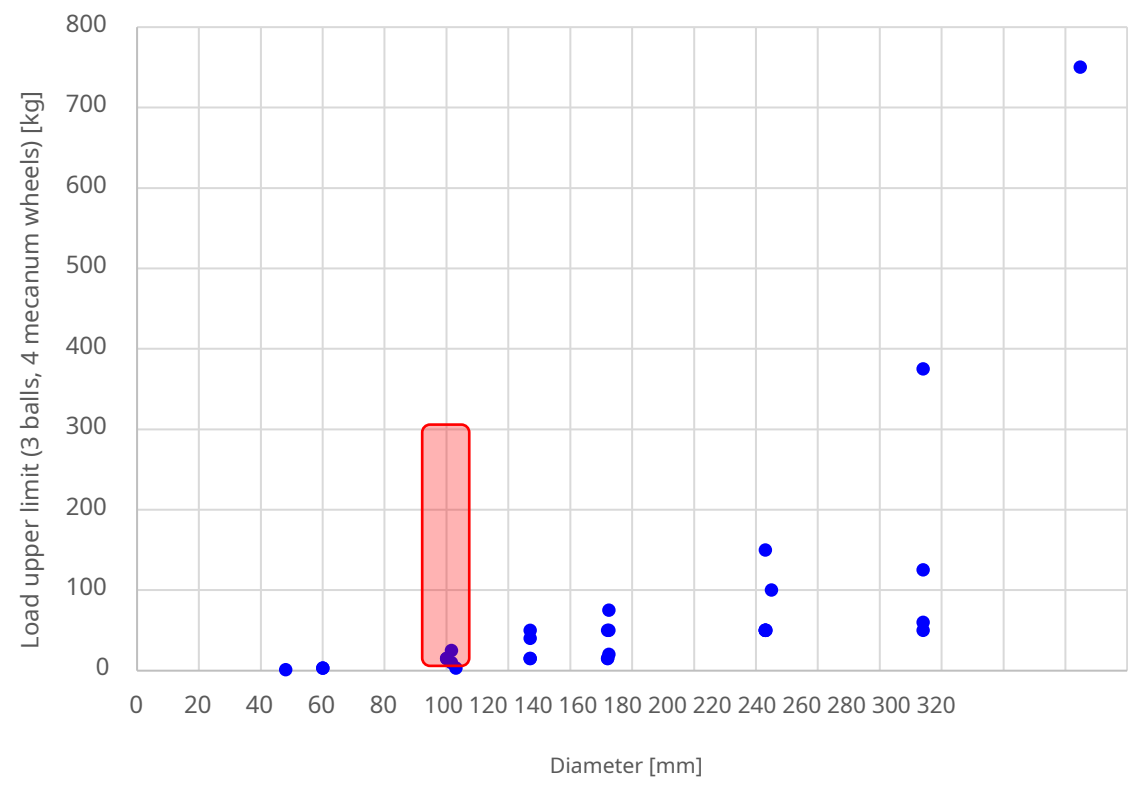
There are no similar patents, and there is a high probability of success.





Comparison with existing technology:

# Ball drive mechanism (Φ100mm) - mecanum wheels

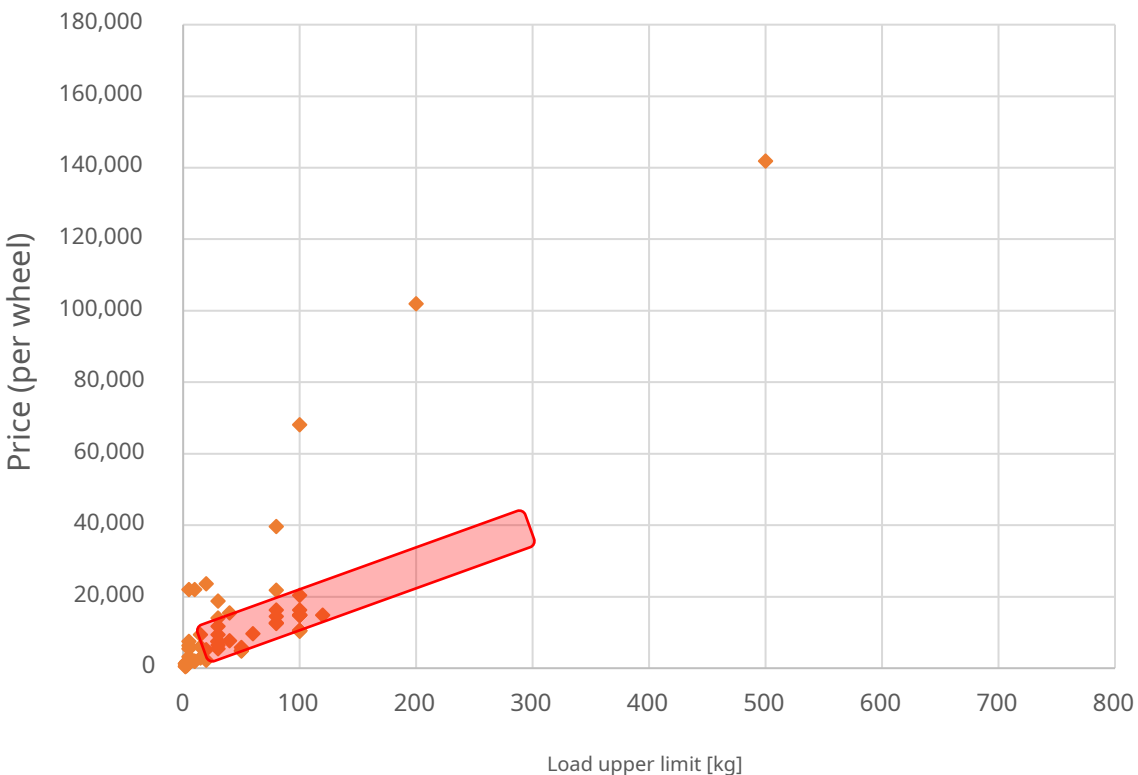
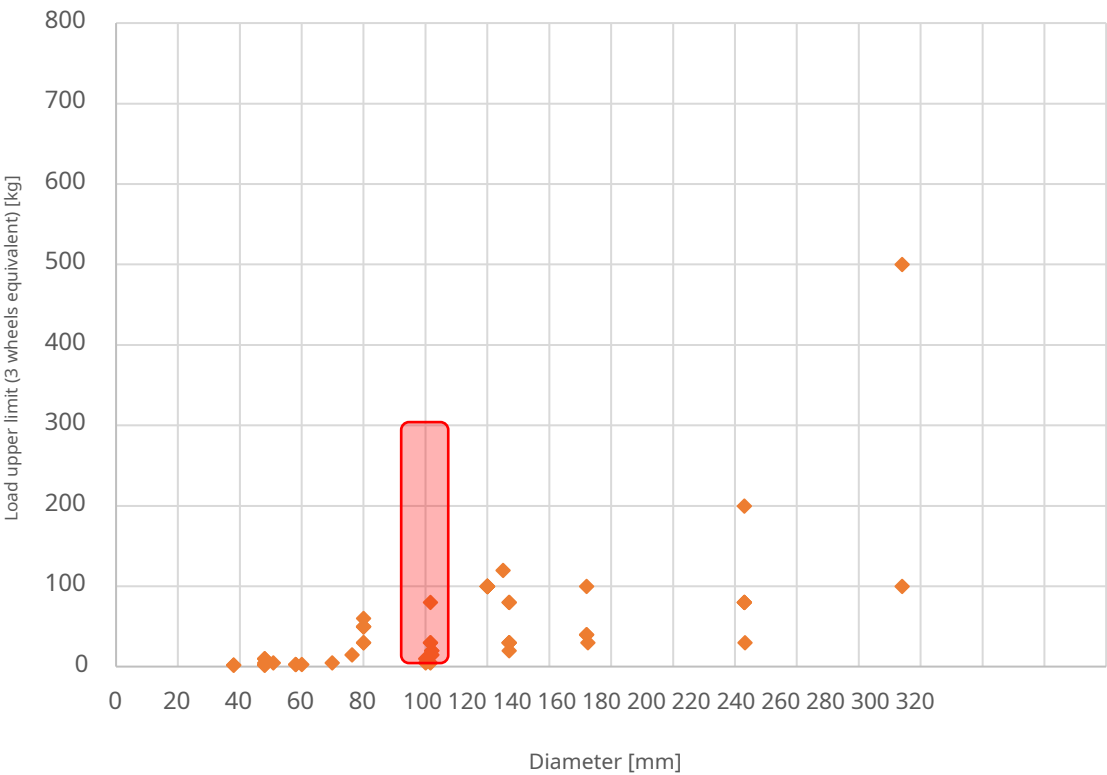


## Mecanum wheels (30 products)



Comparison with existing technology:

# Ball drive mechanism (Φ100mm) - Omniwheel







## Omniwheel (65 products)



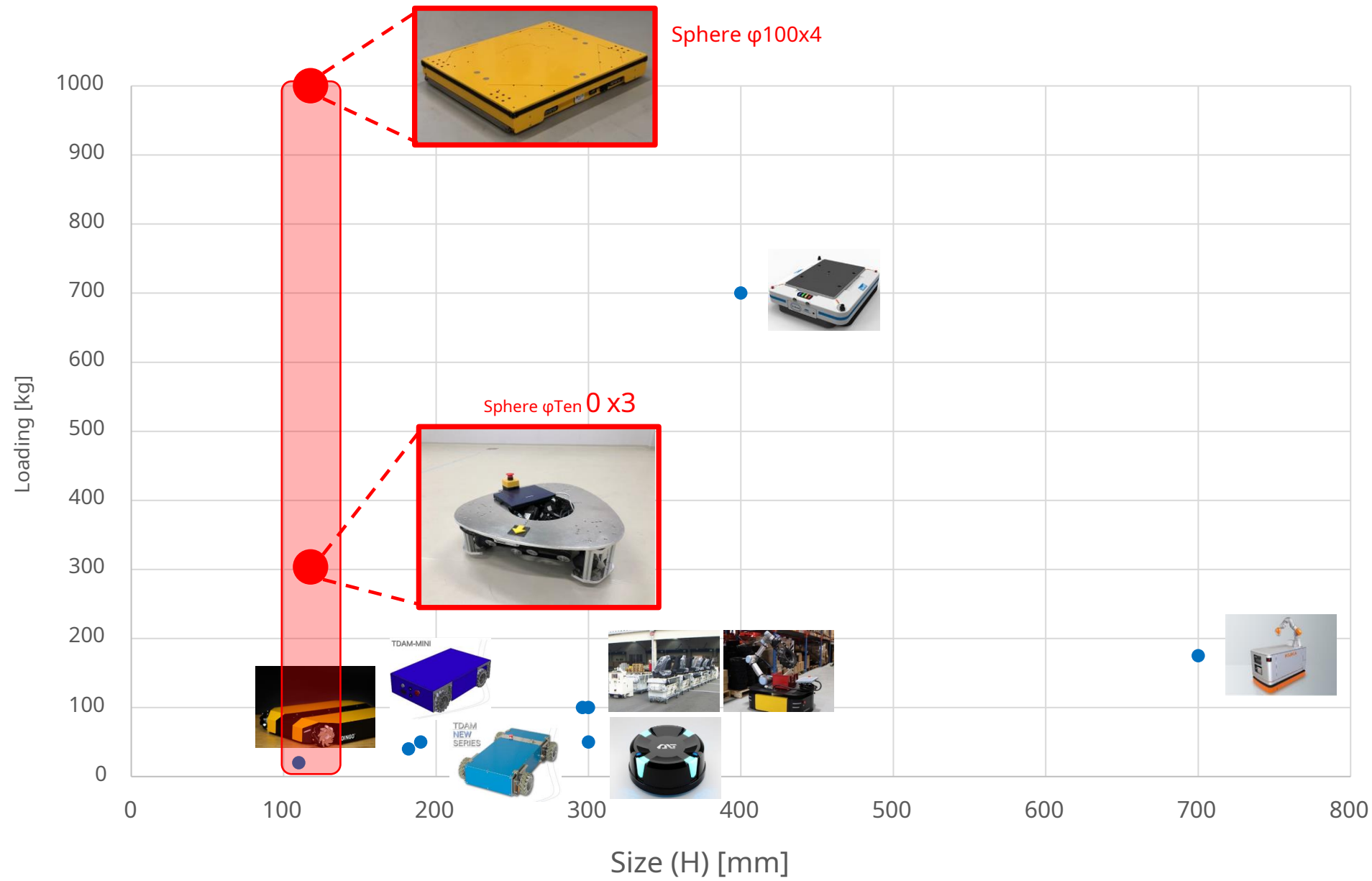


# Application example of omnidirectional movement mechanism (free roller system)

| Maker                    | KUKA  |  |  |  | Tosa Electronics  |   | HILLTOP   | Clearpath Robotics  |   |
|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| Name/model               | KMP 1500  | omniMove   | Triple Lift  | KMR iiwa   | TDAM NEW  | TDAM MINI   | Smart Factory Transporter   | DINGO   | Ridgeback   |
| exterior                 |  |   |  |             |  |  |  |  |  |
| kinds                    | automated guided vehicle  |  |  |  | automated guided vehicle  |   | automated guided vehicle  | automated guided vehicle  |   |
| Drive/steering           | mecanum wheels  |  |  |  | mecanum wheels  |   | mecanum wheels  | mecanum wheels  | mecanum wheels  |
| Size (L×W×H) [mm]        | 2000×800×470  | 5560×2800×650  | 5708×2208×750-8000   | 1190×720×700(trolley)  | 730×513×190   | 699×408×182   | 500×600×300   | 551×517×110   | 960×793×296   |
| Mass [kg]                | 711   | 9,000  | 10,000   | Trolley:375  | 50  | 35  | -   |   |   |
| Loading/towing mass [kg] | 1,500   | 90,000   | 1,000  | Arms: 7, 14 / Trolley: 175   | 50  | 40  | 100   | 20  | 100   |
| Maximum speed [m/min]    | 60  | 50   | 48   | 67   | 47  | 36  | 60  | 8   | 66  |
| Position accuracy [mm]   | ±5  | ±5   | ±5   | Arm: ±0.1 / Dolly: ±1  | -   | -   | -   |   |   |
| position control         | SLAM, laser, wheel scanner  |  |  |  | grid  |   | -   | LiDAR, ultrasound, IMU, wheel encoder   |   |
| Introduction market      | Factory/warehouse (indoor)  |  |  |  | Factories/warehouses (indoors), hospitals   |   | Factory/warehouse (indoor)  | Factories/warehouses (indoors), hospitals   |   |
| Features                 | Industry 4.0<br>In line with tomatom<br>Adjust                                    | The above figures are for the maximum (10 types of fully hydraulic telescopic systems) connection (maximum 30m).<br>Synchronous operation possible | Stepless with Linder<br>adjustable   | Equipped with a small manipulator,<br>Movable range 0.8~0.82m,<br>No protective fence required | Can be operated by controller   |   | With suspension, rear<br>With foot mechanism  | LiDER and manipulator can be installed as options                                   |   |

| Maker                    | Toyota Industries  | TAKUMI   | DAIHEN  |
|--------------------------|--|--|---|
| Name/model               | AiR  | ANT  | AiTran700   |
| exterior                 |  |  |  |
| kinds                    | automated guided vehicle   |  | automated guided vehicle  |
| Drive/steering           | omni wheel   | omni wheel   | omni wheel  |
| Size (L×W×H) [mm]        | Diameter 640 x height 1100   | 655×655×300  | 1230x1480x400   |
| Mass [kg]                | -  | 70   |   |
| Loading/towing mass [kg] | 40   | 50   | 700   |
| Maximum speed [m/min]    | -  | 60   | 40  |
| Position accuracy [mm]   | -  | ±10  | ±100  |
| position control         | SLAM   | pulse, gyro  | guideless   |
| Introduction market      | Factory/warehouse (indoor), hospital, outdoor                                      | Factory/warehouse (indoor)   |   |
| Features                 | option<br>Sending/tracking/cleaning/picking<br>can be changed to                   | jointly developed with Kyushu Institute of Technology                              | By camera sensing<br>High precision positioning (±20mm)                             |

# Comparison with adoption examples (free method): Overall height and load capacity





# AGV manufacturer: Co., Ltd.

## Collaboration with Luz

\*AGV: Automatic guided vehicle

Taking advantage of the site needs of "low floor and running performance", it can be used in all directions without changing the arm height.



Collaborative robot that moves aroundRealization (Φ100mm x 3)

# Exhibition exhibition (Robodex, 2020): duAro2 implementation model

## Tsubakimoto Kogyo – Ken Controls

TYPE  
STYL  
SCO  
BAC  
T  
SUBA

AMR

Autonomous  
Mobile  
Robot

自律走行型  
協働ロボット

duAro2

真に人との親和性を高めた自律型ロボット (仮)

3つの特長

全方向移動

産業連携の  
独自技術で！  
ロボットの向きは  
そのまま、  
全方向移動可能！

高い走行安全性

SLAM方式  
+高精度センサ  
+球駆動で  
高い走行安定性  
を実現！

コンパクト

コンパクト  
設計により、  
様々な場所で  
運用可能！




TSUBAKI

SINCE 1916

椿本興業株式會社

特長1

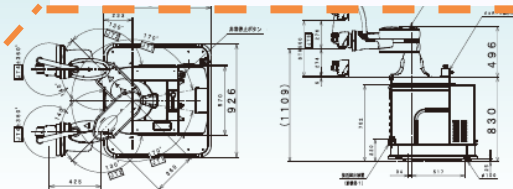
産業連携の独自技術で！  
ロボットの向きはそのまま、全方向移動可能



特長2

デザイン  
により  
高精度  
を実現

特長3



| 項目      | 仕様              |
|---------|-----------------|
| 外形寸法    | L876×W928×H1326 |
| 自重      | 330kg           |
| 最高走行速度  | 30m/min         |
| 走行方向    | 全方向             |
| 制御方式    | 自立方式            |
| 登坂能力    | 1/50            |
| 許容荷重    | 片側 3kg          |
| 電圧      | 24V             |
| バッテリー容量 | 35Ah×2set       |

本製品は特許中であり、予断なく他社が実用となる場合がございます。

お問合せ先

[販売]

TSUBAKI

SINCE 1916

椿本興業株式會社

www.tsubaki.co.jp

大阪本社

〒830-0032 大阪府大阪市北区南田 3-3-20 明治堂生命大阪南田ビル 27 階

Tel.06-4796-8800

東京本社

〒108-8222 東京都港区港南 2-16-2 大崎生命品川ビル 30 階

Tel.03-4718-0151

横浜支店

〒220-0004 神奈川県横浜市西区北幸 2-15-10 オーク横浜ビル 7 階

Tel.045-324-1051

名古屋支店

〒451-6017 愛知県名古屋市中区牛島町 6-1 名古屋ルーセントタワー 17 階

Tel.052-562-2231

[製造元]

KEN CONTROLS

〒830-0102 福岡県久留米市三瀬町田川 1480-1

[技術協力]

国立大学法人

九州工業大学

# Construction industry needs: Further lower floors + load capacity



**low floor** Realization of transport vehicle ( $\Phi 100\text{mm} \times 4$ ), expected load capacity: **1 tons**



# Market potential of omnidirectional movement mechanism



collaborative robot



automated guided vehicle



service