









1920

The word "robot" is invented by the Czech writer Karel Čapek and used in his science fiction stage play "Rossum's Universal Robots"

1954

The first industrial robot arm called a "Programmed Article Transfer device" is patented by George Devol, who partners with Joseph Engelberger and launches it as the Unimate in 1959 with a first installation at General Motors

1960-2000

Caged industrial robots requiring significant investments and programming expertise become widespread in the automotive industry and other manufacturing sectors





A Brief

A research team at the University of Southern Denmark compares existing automation of Cobot

2008

UR5, the world's first collaborative robot able to operate safely alongside people enters the market



2005 Universal Robots A/S is founded by 3 members of the research team at the University of Southern Denmark: Esben Østeraaard. Kristian Kassow and Kasper Støy. Their goal is to develop a flexible, collaborative and user- the industrial robot friendly lightweight robot with a rapid ROI.



2001-2005

solutions to market needs and discovers an opportunity to reinvent



2012

The new UR 10 collaborative robot with a longer reach and greater payload is launched alobally.

2012-2016

"Collaborative Robotics" is recognized as a viable new class of robots; larger robot manufacturers such as KUKA, ABB and Fanuc as well as smaller startups like Rethink Robotics start launching and developing cobots.

2014

TÜV Nord (a German organization that works to validate the safety of products) certifies the safetysystem of the 3rd generation of UR cobots.



ISO =

2016

ISO publishes the long awaited specification ISO/TS 15066, containing guidelines on how to ensure the safety of human workers in collaborative robotic systems

2015

Universal Robots launches UR3, the world's first collaborative table top robot





