



Workshop at European Robotics Forum 2013

The Clearing House effect on Robotics: ECHORD from the point of view of robot manufacturers and suppliers

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(8h30 - 10h30)

European Clearing House
for Open Robotics Development
www.echord.info



ECHORD equipment catalogue effect in European awareness of robotics industry

- Did your company receive inquiries due to the existence of the ECHORD catalogue?
 - No. Maybe due to the fact that Reis robots are not so well represented and known in European academic labs as e.g. KUKA or ABB robots.
- Was your experiment consortium formation triggered by one specific equipment present in the catalogue?
 - No. The consortium was formed based on previously existing common research activities (research projects carried out earlier).
- Have you used the catalogue out from the ECHORD scope?
 - No. But also the catalogue was not promoted outside ECHORD.

European network of robot manufacturers and components providers

- Do you consider the network of European suppliers comprehensive?
 - We consider the network of European suppliers comprehensive in the industrial sector.
 - In other sectors as e.g. professional and domestic service areas the network is probably not that comprehensive. This is also valid for edutainment and other specific sectors, where Asia has a considerable advance to Europe.
- Do you identify any area where Europe is lagging behind US or Asia?
 - There are surely areas, where this is the case (see answer 1), but we did not identify some based on the participation in an ECHORD experiment.

Industry role in consortium formation

- In your opinion why are consortium mostly led by universities?
 - Universities are more often the drivers of collaborative research activities between academia and industry.
 - Many of our project activities in the past were initialised by the academic partners.

Industry role of experiment participant vs. equipment supplier

- In your ECHORD experiment (s) do you (mostly) play the role of supplier or participant?
 - We had more the role of a participant rather than only of a supplier (experiment consists of 1 academic and 2 industrial partners).
 - The main scientific research work was carried out by the academic partner.
 - The industrial partner's role was to:
 - provide data,
 - provide test parts / test scenarios,
 - evaluation of the results,
 - exploitation after project end

ECHORD monitoring in comparison with Industry project management

- What is your feedback on the ECHORD monitoring procedures, namely concerning: moderator role, blog platform, reporting period?
 - Moderator role: role is okay, but was not used much from our experiment.
 - Blog platform: not used
 - Reporting period: OK, but there are big delays concerning technical and financial reporting (currently we are contributing to the final version of Forms C for 2011!)
 - This has mainly to do with the construction of the ECHORD project as an IP with many additional partners from the single experiments.
 - Our experiment is almost finished (April '13). Up to now no funding money received.
 - The slowest partners in all experiments determine the pace.