



Workshop at European Robotics Forum 2013

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

Lyon, France
19 March 2013
(8h30 - 10h30)

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



Our interest in this area

D/D/D Tasks



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ECHORD experiments

Collaboration with few partners

Different national boundary rules

Small projects

Transfer of technology

Application-oriented focus

Opportunity to get great hardware cheap(er)

DexDeb Partners

Shadow – dextrous hand design and research

KCL – Center for Mechatronics and Manufacturing Systems

IFMA – Mechanical Engineering Research Group (LaMI)

ADIV – French Technical Center for Meat



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HYFLAM – other hazards

Difficult / dirty / dangerous markets

Initial meeting with HPA in 2009

Interest but no resources

Other research projects (HANDLE)
developing manipulation control,
grasping, handling

Eggs

Ampoules

Syringes

Pipettes

Sample jars



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ECHORD equipment catalogue effect in European awareness of robotics industry

- One inquiry from catalogue
- Useful for reviewing other offers
- Useful for scoping other proposals
- Hard to work with
- “CALL IS CLOSED” all over front page not helpful!

European network of robot manufacturers and components providers

Do you consider the network of European suppliers comprehensive?

Lower-level component supply is an issue

Do you identify any area where Europe is lagging behind US or Asia

Cohesion in the industry - PPP?

Commercial funding and resources

Strong SBRI-type schemes

Industry role in consortium formation

- In your opinion why are consortium mostly led by universities?
 - 7 projects – about 2/3 university led
 - Two resubmissions, one above threshold in Call 1 not resubmitted
 - Universities used to bidding on research money?
 - Comparison with Framework programme over time?
- For us,
 - Didn't need 3 countries
 - Simpler project design than FP7
 - Opportunity to engage with customers on practical problem

Industry role of experiment participant vs equipment supplier

- In your ECHORD experiment (s) do you (mostly) play the role of supplier or participant?
 - Both
- HYFLAM
 - Active engagement in problem space but not research
- DEXDEB
 - Working with research partner to develop hardware
 - Research partner wanted more time than we could provide

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?
 - Online approach good
 - Would have liked to know more about what the ECHORD consortium was thinking
 - Communication needs to go to all partners
 - Simultaneous Form C submission &c is difficult
 - Light touch important