

The EuRoC project presented their finalist projects in Automatica Trade Show



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European Robotics Challenges (EuRoC), the research project funded under the Seventh Framework of the European Commission, was presenting their **6 finalist challenger teams** in the *Automatica* fair in Munich where they showcased their results in an area of 200 square metres in hall B4, **booth 417**.

These challenges were launched in April 2014 through open calls for challengers, technology developers, system integrators, and end-users, and they were created around the concept of three industry-relevant challenges; reconfigurable interactive manufacturing cell, shop floor logistic and manipulation and plant servicing and inspection.



Each challenge was articulated into **three stages** of increasing complexity. **Stage 1** was the "Qualifying" round. Any team could apply to a simulation contest. The best 45 teams (15 for each challenge) formed by research experts from academia, solution-oriented or innovating companies from industry, qualified to advance.

The best 15 proposals (5 for each challenge) were chosen by an independent Panel of Experts to advance to **Stage 2 "Realistic labs"**, from July 2015 to April 2017, where the teams benchmarked their solutions on three world-class robotic platforms hosted by [IPA Fraunhofer](#), [DLR](#) and [ETH Zurich](#), and emulated the use cases in the labs.

Then, a Panel of Experts selected the best **6 teams** (2 for each challenge) to advance to **Stage 3 "Field tests"**, from July 2017 to March 2018, for implementing the use cases. A Board of Judges with different expertise ranked the results obtained by the teams in Stage 3, and the **EuRoC Winner** was selected during the **Final Challenge Workshop** in Naples in April 2018: Team **FLA²IR** from **Challenge 1**, composed of FZI Research Center for Information Technology as Research, MRK-Systeme GmbH as System Integrator, and Opel Automobile GmbH as End-User.

The EuRoC Winner is only symbolic as it did not get a monetary prize. The 15 teams in Stage 2 got up to 375 K€ financial support, while the 6 teams in Stage 3 got up to € 585,000 financial support, and thus they were all winners.

After four years and half of work, EuRoC Project has been successful in achieving relevant results in terms of technology transfer through the benchmarking, challenge and competition concepts, and also it has helped to boost and enhance competitiveness and produce remarkable achievements on a pervasive scale, involving all the stakeholders in the value chain of European Robotics.

