

Accelerating Industry Adoption of ROS2 based Technology in Asia Pacific



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ROS-Industrial Asia Pacific Consortium Manager
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The Advanced Remanufacturing Technology Centre (ARTC)



Leading Public-Private Partnership Research Centre in SE Asia

Officially Opened on 28th January 2015

- Mission – To Develop and Deploy Advanced Manufacturing Solutions and Upskill Workforce, to Drive Local Industry Competitiveness
- Bridging the gap between Research and Industry
- Co-Create and Value Capture with Industry through the Implementation of Solutions

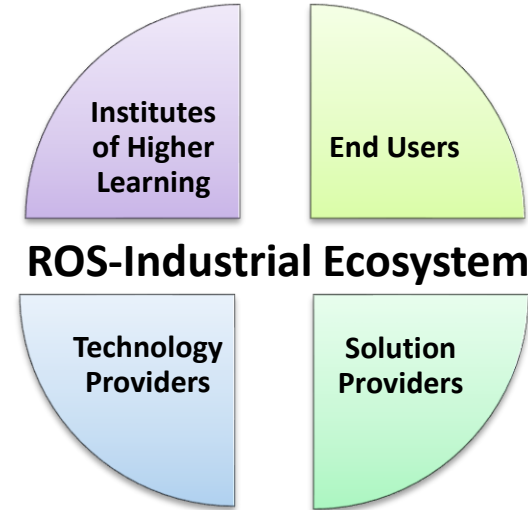


The ROS-Industrial Membership Ecosystem



A Global Consortium with regional presence:

Fraunhofer
IPA
Fraunhofer IPA, Germany



SwRI
SOUTHWEST RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Southwest
Research
Institute, Texas

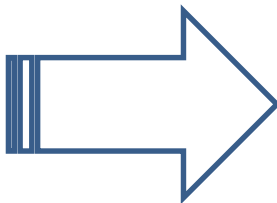


a
A*STAR ARTC, Singapore

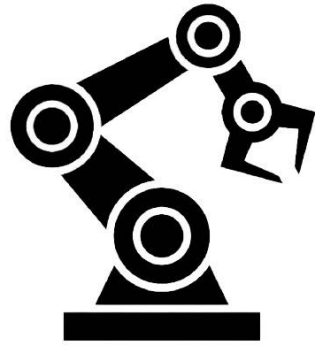
2 new members in Asia Pacific...

KYOCERA **infineon**

Joining >80 members Globally

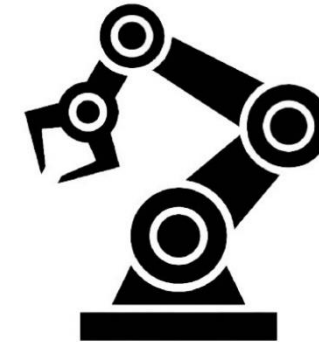


The Vision and Mission of ROS-Industrial AP



Vision

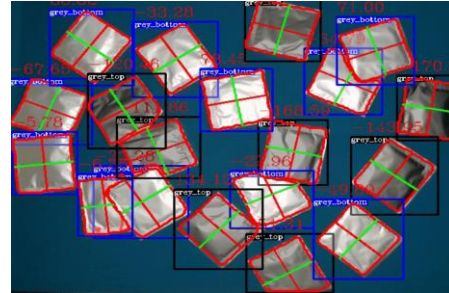
An internationally acclaimed default partner
in Asia Pacific for Open Source robotics



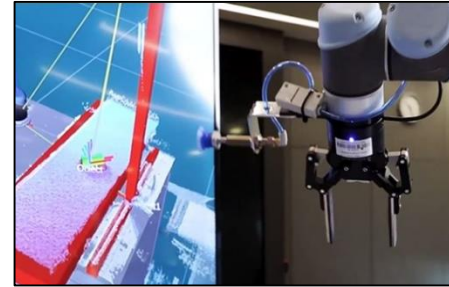
Mission

To develop and deploy ROS2 native
technologies to support the international
ROS community and Singapore's robotics
ecosystem partners in their accelerated
adoption of Open Source robotics

Technology Focus



Perception



Manipulation



Software Quality

Motivation

- Accelerating adoption of robotics through ROS
- Ease of installation, setup and deployment
- Flexible and upgradeable to new state of the art algorithms, dynamically support different hardware architectures
- Industry-ready ROS 2 packaging – this includes following formal R&D processes and deliver automated software testing for maintainability

Perception – ROS2 easy_perception_deployment (epd)



Motivation

A ROS 2 package that provides object vision capabilities that is easy to configure and deploy, with support for state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms

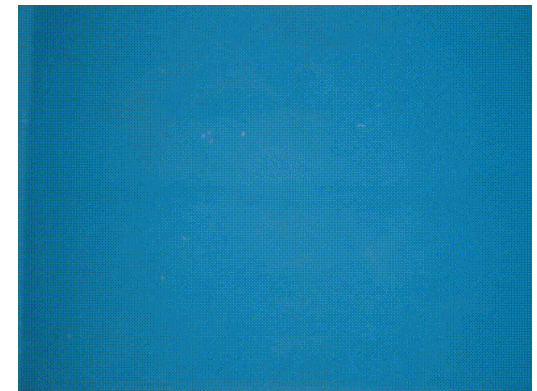
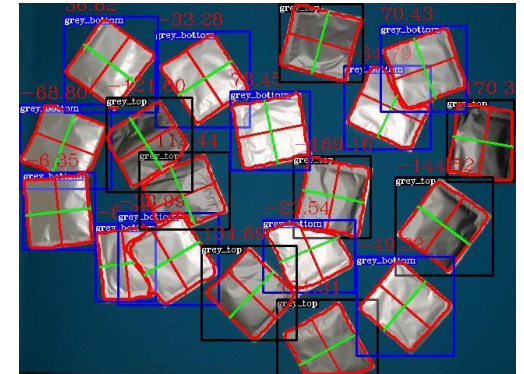
Permissively Licensed and Open Source.

Reduces time needed in training and deploying robotic vision systems by use of **transfer-learning**.

Reduces knowledge barrier with the use of GUI to guide users. Targeted mainly at **users with little or no programming background**.

Relies on **open-standard ONNX AI models**. Removes overreliance on any one given Machine Learning library (Eg. Tensorflow, PyTorch, MXNet).

ROS 2 package **formally tested**

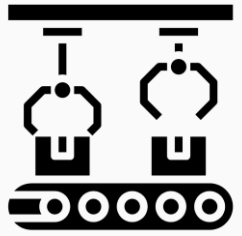


Perception (epd) – Use Case

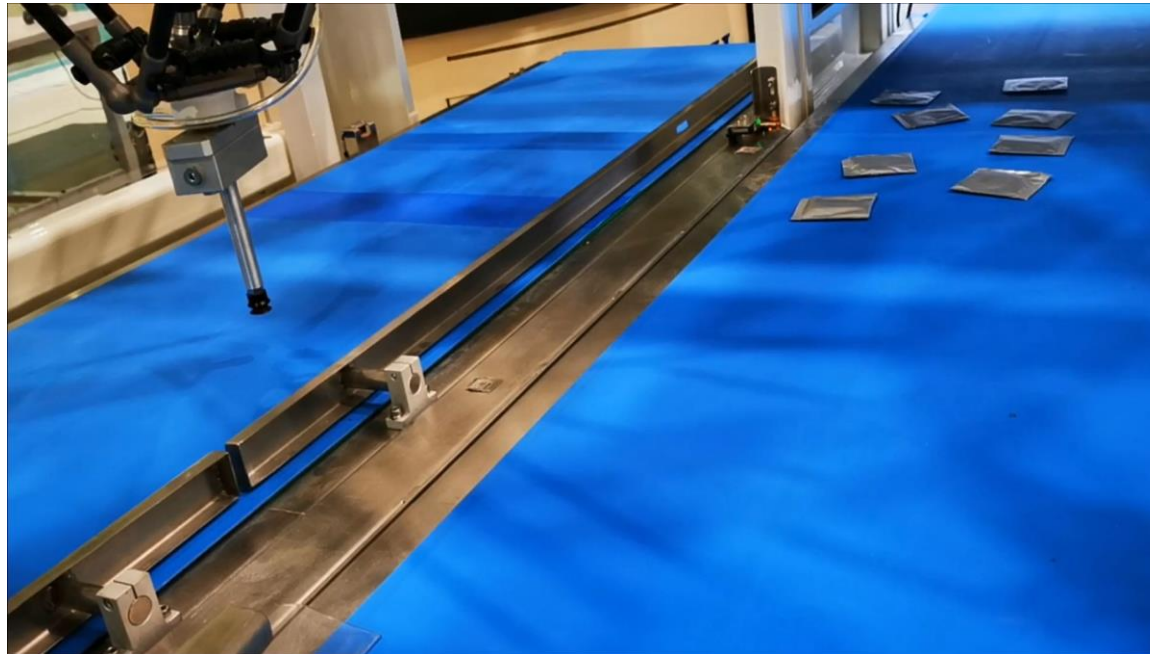


EPD Configuration: ROS2 Foxy, Precision Level 3, Object Localization, operating at 2 FPS

Use Case Description: Industrial Conveyor Tracking and Automated Picking.



**ROS 2-based
conveyor belt picking**



EPD runs a **deep-learning model** as a ROS2 inference engine which outputs object information in the form of **custom ROS2 messages** that caters to common Computer Vision demands.

Customizable Use-case Configurations :

- I. Classification
- II. Counting
- III. Color-Matching
- IV. Localization/Measurement
- V. Tracking

Perception (epd) – Release Candidate



Download



https://github.com/ros-industrial/easy_perception_deployment

License

License Apache 2.0

- Business friendly license that can be leveraged to create proprietary and commercial solutions

Quality

CI passing

codecov 88%

docs passing

- Comprehensive code coverage of unit tests
- Complete support documents in place
- No static analysis warnings
- No dynamic analysis warnings



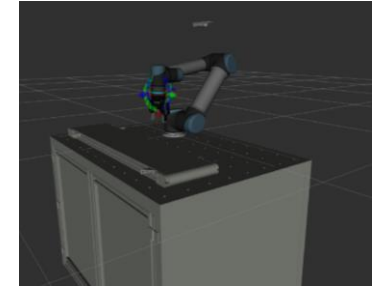
Manipulation – ROS2 easy_manipulation_deployment(emd) :: ROS^{*}



Motivation

An easy to use ROS 2 manipulation package that provide a fast and flexible pipeline for pick and place tasks that can support a variety of grippers

Workcell Builder - Quick and intuitive GUI for users to create a representation of the elements in a workcell

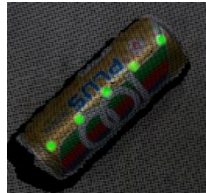


Key Features

Grasp Planner – Modular and flexible grasp planner that generates an end effector specific pose from a perception output and **can flexibly plan for different end-effector architectures**



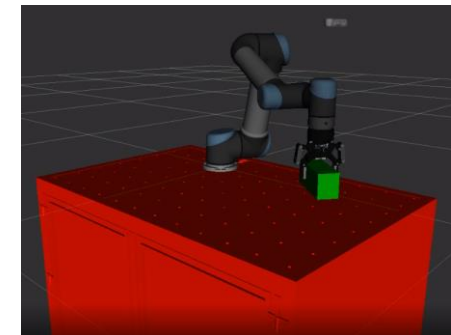
5-Finger Gripper



Suction Cup Array

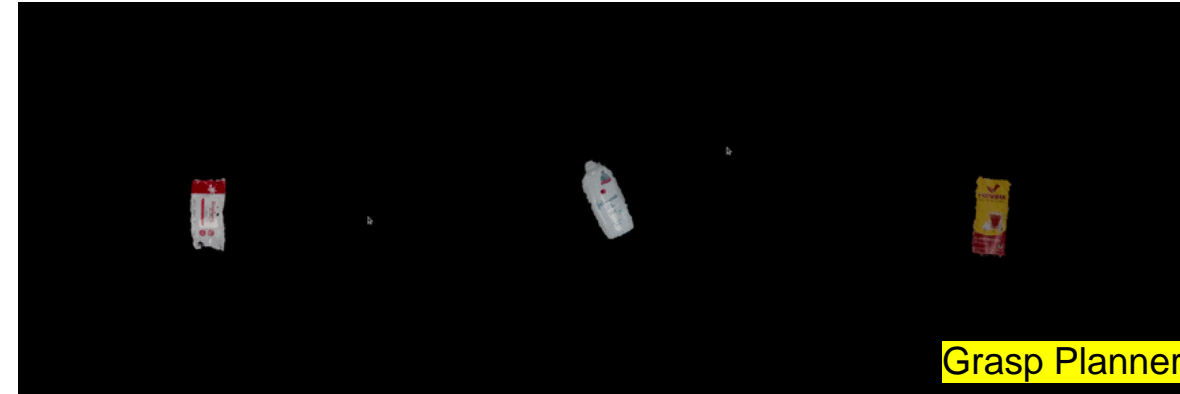
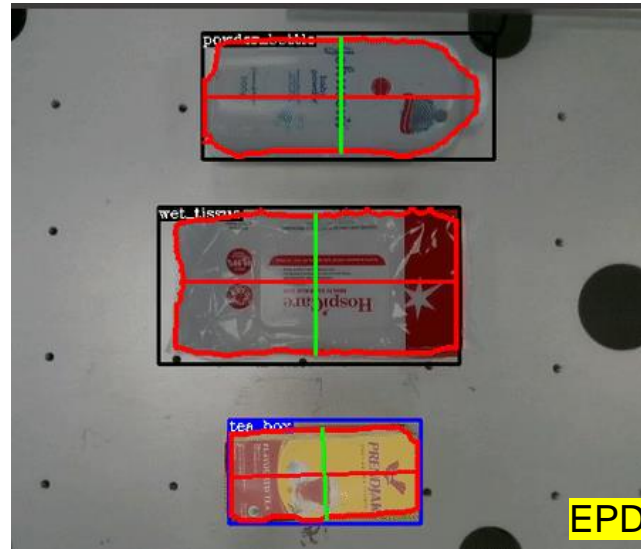
Grasp Execution - Robust and dynamic path planning process to **navigate robot** to the object for grasp while accounting for workcell/user safety

ROS 2 package **formally tested**

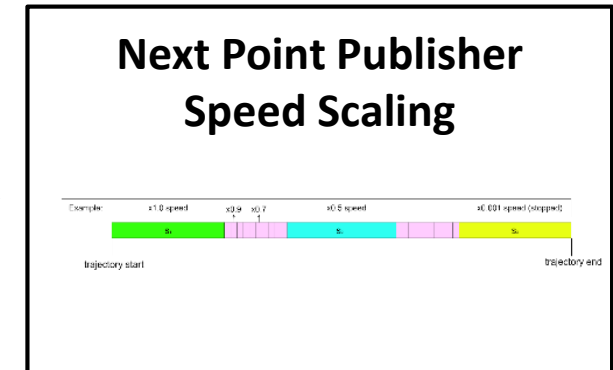
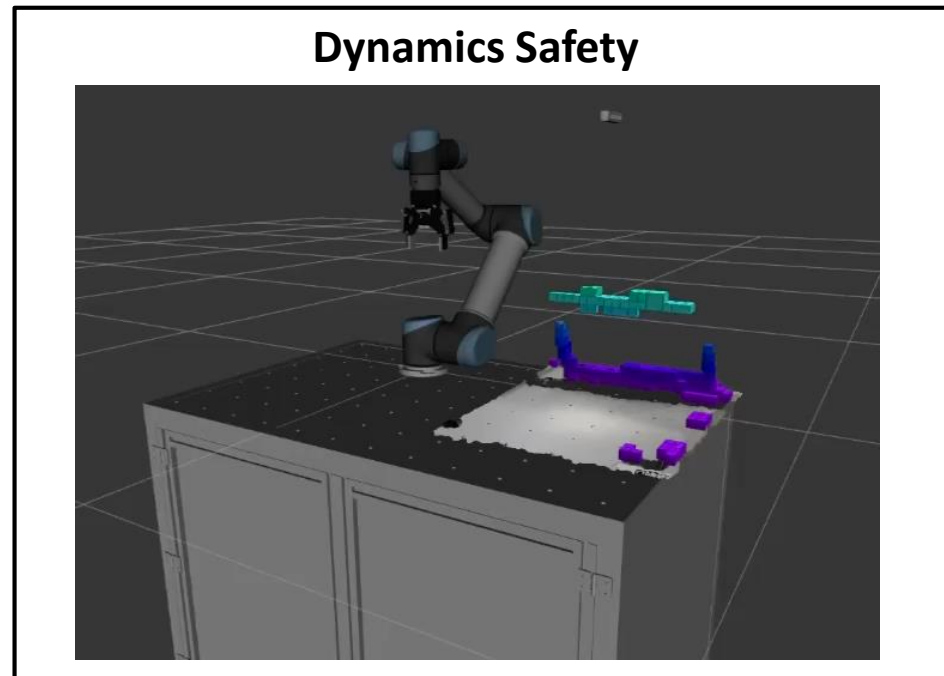
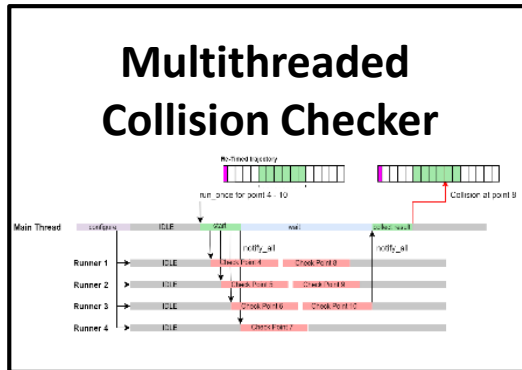
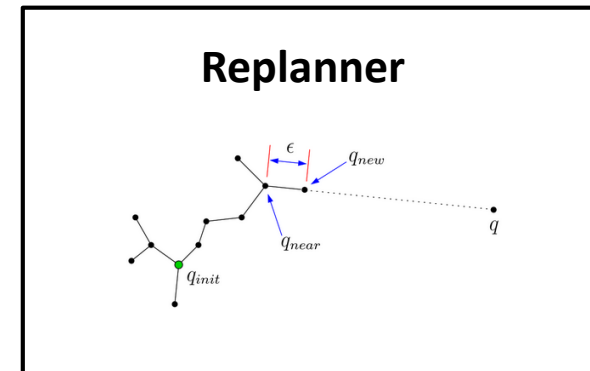
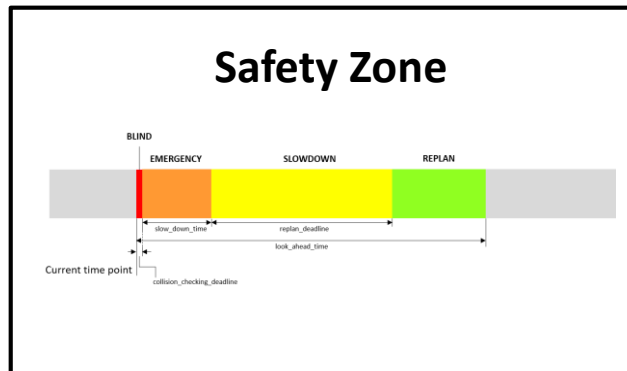


Manipulation(emd) – Full Pipeline Established

End-To-End EPD-EMD
Pipeline testing has
been successfully
demonstrated



Manipulation(emd) – Dynamic Safety



Manipulation (emd) – Use Cases

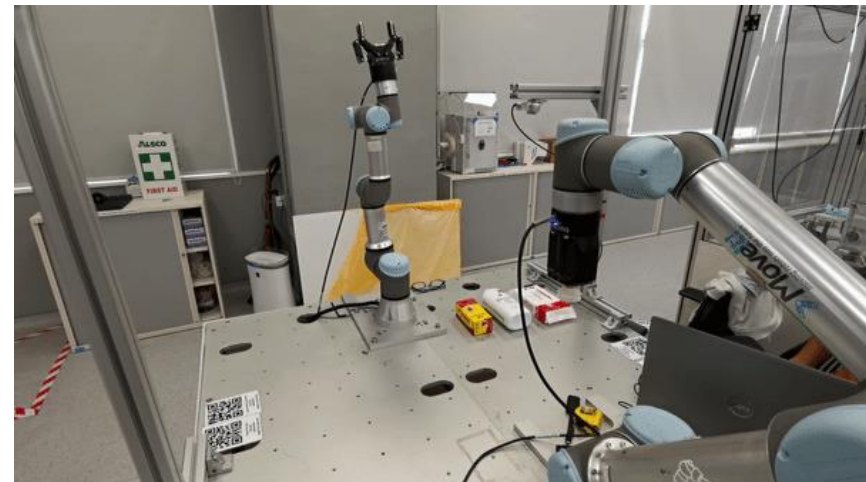
Potential industry implementation:

- I. Handling in High-Mix Low-Volume FMCG industry
- II. Handling in Manufacturing environment
- III. Machine Tending Automation
- IV. Labeling Automation
- V. Many other more !

Finger Gripper



Suction Cup



Manipulation (emd) – Release Candidate

Download



https://github.com/ros-industrial/easy_manipulation_deployment

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- Business friendly license that can be leveraged to create proprietary and commercial solutions

Quality

CI passing codecov 30% docs passing

- Increasing unit tests coverage for workcell builder
- Complete support documents in place
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- No dynamic analysis warnings



Towards Automated Industry-grade Quality



Dec 17 2019



July 31 2021



Mid 2022

REP-2004 – Global
Community Alignment

- **5 quality levels**
- **7 categories** with process expectations and metrics used to determine the quality level of a package.

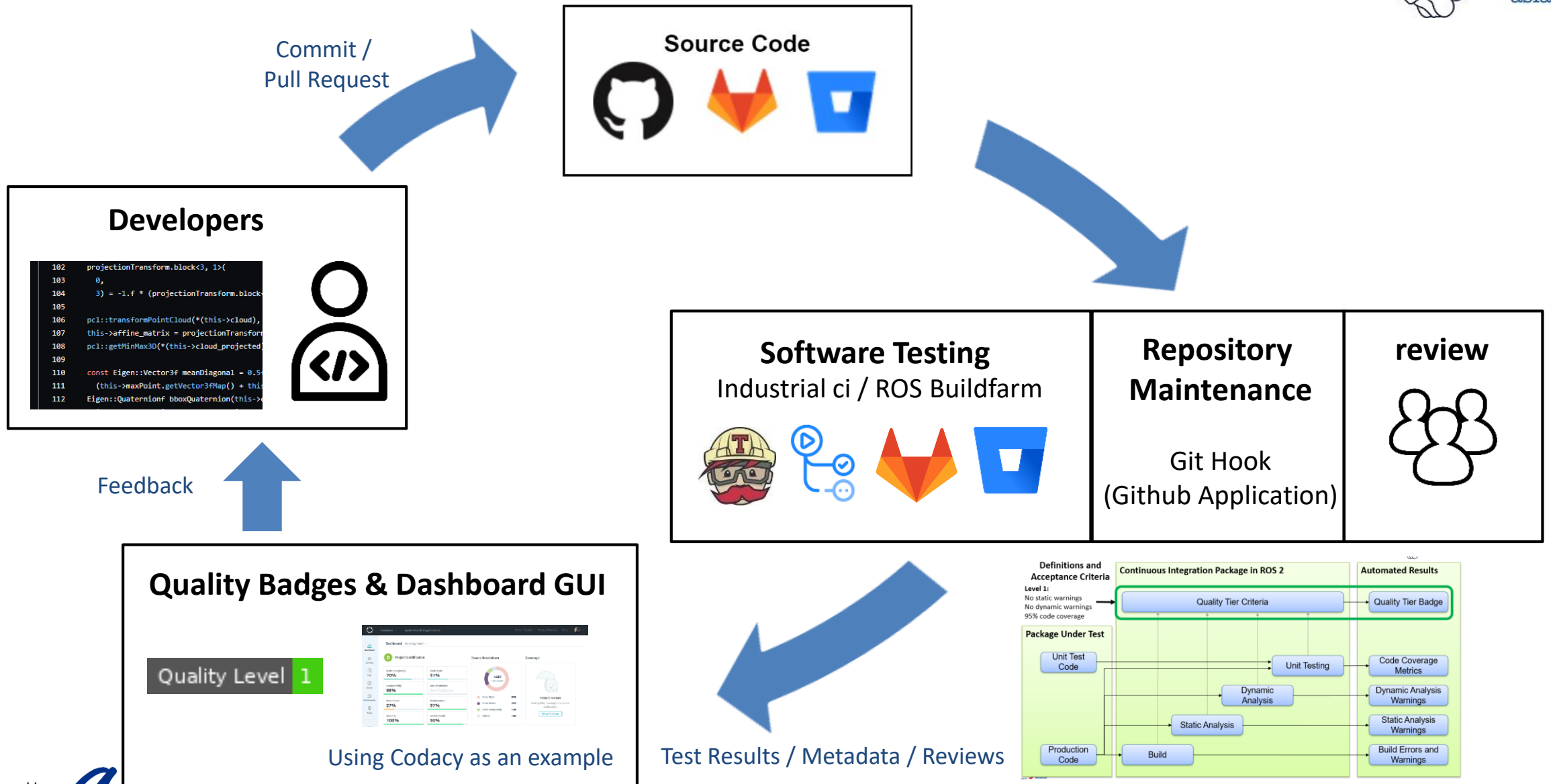
ROS-Industrial
industrial_ci

- Tools for **automated software testing** and **continuous integration**.
- **Tutorials** for implementing industrial_ci and achieving quality levels.

ROS-Industrial
Quality Tier Badges for
industrial_ci

- One-stop hosted service for
- **End-user** to determine whether a package is suitable for your project.
 - **Maintainers** ensure package quality assurance consistency.

ROS Quality Badges



Projects On Robotics Middleware Framework (RMF)



1) Physical Trial Project

- ROS-Industrial AP collaborate with industry partners to deploy RMF physical trial **to enable scalable and autonomous operations for facilities management**

2) Focused Technical Project (FTP)

- ROS-Industrial AP Consortium members collaborate **to develop enhancements required to adopt RMF for manufacturing industry**

Project Outcomes:

- **Connectivity** to brownfield systems
- **Interoperability** between robots and edge devices
- Task and fleet **scheduling**
- Enterprise **Integration**
- Performance **Benchmarking**
- **Optimized** task allocation
- Automatic retreat for battery charging
- **Single dashboard** for different brands of robots

Significant portions of project will be **Open Sourced**

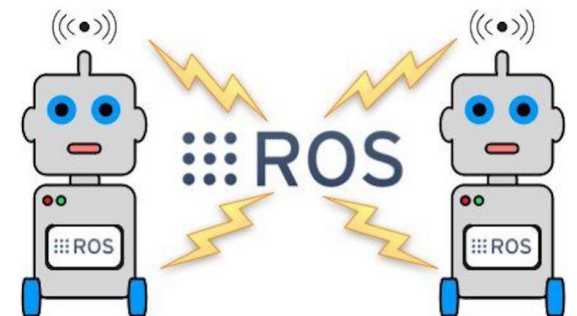


Image Source: roboticsandautomationnews.com

ROS bootcamp and ROS2 Trainings updates



A 5-day boot camp was held in **March** for **16 Singapore Poly students** to get them started in ROS, and the event ended with a competition between the students on **autonomous navigation of turtlebot** thru a tricky maze!



A 3-day training workshop was curated and delivered to ROS-Industrial AP consortium members in **March** on **ROS 2 basics, EPD and EMD**.

13 participants from **7 companies** participated, provided them with an in-depth technical explanation of the **working principles** for each of the packages



Register for the Next Upcoming Training (Scan the QR code)


- ROS-Industrial Developer training is taking place 13th - 16th Sep
- ROS-Industrial Developer's meeting is taking place 14th Sep




For any enquiries related to our current or upcoming trainings, e-mail us at ros-i_asia@artc.a-star.edu.sg


Future ROS 2 Training Packages



 **ROS2 Basics**
Middleware, DDS, Unified API
ROS2 Structure, computation

 **Easy_Perception_Depolyment(EPD)**
Object detection, classification, tracking and accurate positioning module,

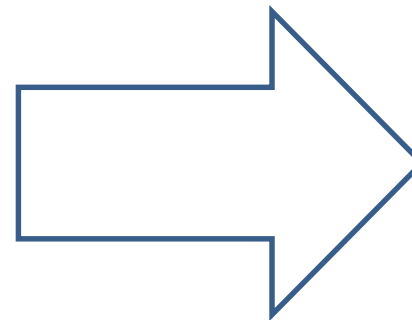
Navigation2
Mapping, Simulation of mobile robot thru Gazebo and SLAM, Integration of sub-systems

 **Easy_Manipulation_Depolyment(EMD)**
Flexible and fast grasping library for multiple types of end effectors with integrated collision avoidance capability

Bootcamps for Students

ROS-I Members Training

Public Training



Physical Platform

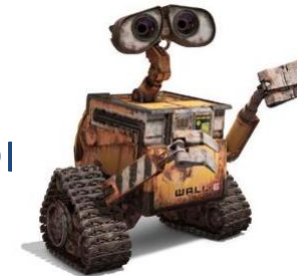
Digital platform - Via AWS Robomaker, EC2 computing environment

Key focus for year 2022

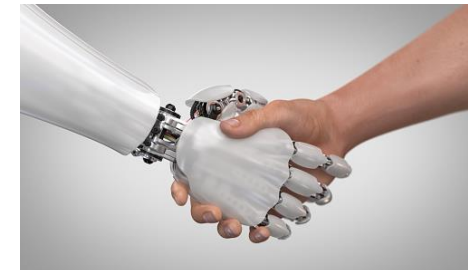
- Continuing the effort on accelerating **industry adoption** and **implementation of ROS2 modules**

ROS 2

- Focused Technical Project on **Mobile Manipulation** application



- Continuing the effort on **ROS outreach** and support **Robotics Initiatives** for Asia Pacific



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Thank you!