

# History of the Paint Robot

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## Abstract

Starting in the sixties, we have seen a tremendous development of the robotics technology for paint applications. The first robots were however simple, easy to program and surprisingly reliable, thanks to superior craftsmanship carried out by the pioneers of the new trade (Fig. 1). Most references here are for painting robots, which is the division where this author has his experience.

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## 1. Introduction

A paint robot system consists of the manipulator, the controller and the teach pendant unit (TPU) (Fig. 2). In addition, most paint robots

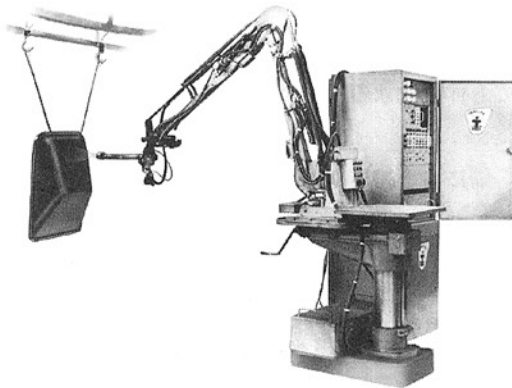


Fig. 1 1967: The first working prototype.

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have a process system that controls the fluid to be applied (Fig. 3). Furthermore, there is an in-

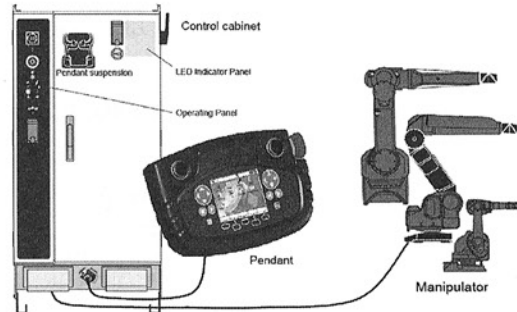


Fig. 2 Main components of a robot system

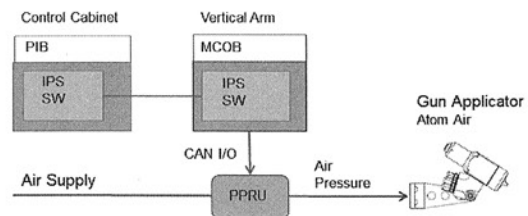


Fig. 3 Principles of Applicator Control.  
PIB: Paint Interface Board, MCOB: Manipulator Control Board, IPS: Integrated Process System, PPRU: Proportional Pressure Regulator Unit