



ASARob – USER-ORIENTED ASSISTANCE ROBOTS AS EVERYDAY AIDS FOR THE ELDERLY

Contactr

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Background

In 2030, four million aging people in Germany will be in need of care. Professional care staff are already in short supply; solutions that can ease some of the burdens on the care staff must therefore be explored. One solution approach with a high user potential are assistance robots. In future, assistance robots may be able to help elderly people with everyday or household chores, or provide additional support in care homes.

Project

To ensure that assistance robots used in geriatric wards provide customer-focused and effective assistance, they must be able to interact with humans as faultlessly as possible and in a way that meets the human's expectations. The aim of the collaborative project ASARob («Attention-sensitive assistance robot») is therefore the implementation of a reliable attention recognition and control system for the human-robot interaction.

For this project, the Fraunhofer IMW researchers are focusing in particular on designing assistance robots in a way that is user-focused, as well as on the ethical, legal and social implications that need to be taken into account in the context of the assistance robot solution in the geriatric care area.

Initially, the needs of all user groups will be identified in expert interviews and focus

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groups. On the basis of the respective results, the Fraunhofer IMW team will then formulate recommendations on how to design assistance robots in a way that is user-focused, as well as on the ethical, legal and social implications in the geriatric care context. It will also investigate the value drivers and the user willingness to pay in the form of a survey conducted with experts, clinics and care homes in order to ensure an early market-focus for the assistance robot.

Project Duration

8/01/2017–7/30/2020

Project partners



Fraunhofer Institute of Optronics, System Technologies and Image Exploitation IOSB



Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA



University of Bremen



Unity Robotics GmbH



SemVox GmbH