

Stories from Past Issues of *Japan SPOTLIGHT*

Robots Are Friends & Colleagues of Human Beings

By *Japan SPOTLIGHT*

AI and robots are not the same, but often produce the same perception that they could be a menace to human beings, such as by affecting their job security. We have a variety of articles on this as our Cover Story in this issue. To complement these stories with further anecdotes and viewpoints, *Japan SPOTLIGHT* also recommends the following interviews with some robot business entrepreneurs in our past issues. If you are interested in learning about possible relationships between humans and robots, please search for them in our archives. Technological innovation at first glance may intimidate us, causing concerns and anxieties over its possible impact on human job opportunities. But as has happened in the past in most cases, such concerns may well not materialize.



November/December 2014 issue:
Interview with Naohito Shiroma, Director of Kawada Robotics, “Robots Will Create New Aspects of Collaboration” (pp. 48-51)



March/April 2015 issue:
Interview with Toshifumi Tsuji, Senior General Manager, Saitama Factory, Production Headquarters, Glory Ltd., “A Factory Where Work Can Be Shared with Faithful Friends” (pp. 39-43)



These two stories provide a good description of how human-shaped industrial robots were created and how they are used in a factory.



January/February 2015 issue:
Interview with Renya Kikuchi, Chairman of Learning Systems Co., Ltd., “Exporting STEM/Robotics, Social Entrepreneurship Built on the Experience of IT Business” (pp. 54-57)



January/February 2016 issue:
Interview with Isao Kikuchi, CEO, Kikuchi Seisakusho Co., Ltd., “Workmanship in Japan Restoring Tohoku Region & Vitalizing an Aging Society” (pp. 38-41)



These articles describe how robots could be used to increase human beings' social welfare as well as raise labor productivity in a factory. The robot in the first article is used for education, and the one in the second for caregiving.

Visit *Japan SPOTLIGHT* website!
www.jef.or.jp/journal/

From March 2016, you can read our latest issue for free on our website. For Archives (previous issues), you can get an ID and a Password for an annual subscription of 500 yen (inclusive of tax). Each article is available as a PDF.