

Press release

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ManuRob, Manurob will present its Loadix robot for automating agricultural handling tasks at the upcoming SIMA exhibition.

The start-up ManuRob, subsidiary of the M-extend group

By talking to farmers about the agricultural handling needs they encounter on a daily basis, and convinced that autonomous robotic solutions would represent an answer, ManuRob was created in 2018 to explore the fields of possibilities, true to the mission of the M-extend group "to facilitate the handling work of farmers".

After four years of work, the start-up will present its Loadix prototype for the first time at the next SIMA exhibition to be held in Villepinte from 6 to 10 November.

«The innovation presented by ManuRob is fully in line with the mission of the M-extend group "making handling work easier for farmers". We have been innovating for 70 years. Today, thanks to our subsidiary ManuRob, this is even more concrete by putting robotization at the service of our farmers through a machine that has no equal because of its versatility and its ease of setup in a farm without the need for specific arrangements. »

- Franck Mailleux, M-extend Vice-President-

Loadix, a unique multi-purpose robot

LOADIX is a robot that allows farmers to automate the time-consuming, repetitive, and low value-added handling tasks they have to perform on a daily basis. The operations targeted are those related to the handling of organic matter.

In a real break with the existing systems because of its ability to automate end-to-end organic matter handling operations in a farmyard (feeding the animals, scraping the buildings, loading the biogas digester hopper, cleaning the yard...). It is the complete and secure autonomy of the machine in an open environment that makes LOADIX unique.



To achieve this, LOADIX embeds a concentration of several innovative technologies :

-Full autonomy :

The machine operates completely autonomously in the farmyard (without any human intervention). It can identify the different organic materials to be handled. It is possible to program its missions from a smartphone and to follow its activity in real time. It can also change implements autonomously between two tasks.

·Electric powered

LOADIX is a totally electric-powered machine in order to ensure a silent operation of the machine but also in order to respect the environment. In line with this approach, a battery technology that does not require cobalt has been chosen.

The battery pack has been designed to be fully charged in less than 4 hours.

· Safe and secure operation

LOADIX is equipped with anti-collision sensors and powerful and redundant braking devices for a safe use for the farmer's environment and all goods and persons.

·Strong agility

The manoeuvrability of LOADIX is essential for moving, loading and unloading materials in a constrained environment. For this reason, LOADIX is as compact as possible and equipped with two directional decks.

· **Precise localisation**

In order to benefit from precise localisation both indoors and outdoors, the machine embeds several localisation systems (GPS RTK, INS, Lidar, Odometry) which are merged to allow the machine's autonomous Navigation.

· **Full connectivity**

To enable the exchange of information between the mobile machine and its supervisor, the user and the third-party equipment with which it interacts, LOADIX includes several connectivity systems.

· **A long service life**

LOADIX is designed for daily operation. In order to facilitate the farmer's tasks and thus optimise the production of the corresponding farm, the system has the capacity to operate 24/7.

« Today, the ManuRob team is proud to present its work. Our machine is now well advanced, we are happy to expose it to the reality of the field and the daily life of many potential users. Our objective is to continue to improve it in collaboration with them. We are convinced that this solution represents a real advance for future users.».

- Pierre Germanaud, ManuRob Director-

Come to SIMA, from 6 to 10 November, Hall 6 in the SIMATech area to discover ManuRob and Loadix!

About us

The startup ManuRob, a subsidiary of the M-extend group, develops innovative robotic solutions to make handling work easier for farmers.

How did the ManuRob story start?

Listening to farmers about the handling problems they meet daily (repetitive and time-consuming tasks, difficult to delegate), and convinced that autonomous robotic solutions would



extend



represent an answer to these problems, ManuRob was created in 2018 to explore the fields of possibilities.

A first work of monitoring and research and development is initiated on the fields of robotics which are then new for the M-extend group .

In 2019, ManuRob established the first partnerships that enable the company to increase its skills in these areas and, above all, went into the field to carry out acquisitions and tests with farmers in real conditions.

In 2020, the first results confirm the idea that a solution specifically designed to operate autonomously is the best answer.

In 2021, the first tests are carried out in situ in the ManuRob test farm. In a few weeks, the startup will present for the first time its prototype named Loadix, with the aim of discussing with farmers and professionals who might be interested in its solution.

M-extend is a family-run, independent group that was founded in 1951. With our history, our mission, our values and our culture of innovation, we build on our commercial brands (MX, MANIP', Mach Connectors) to offer farmers solutions that make their handling work easier.

From our two French sites and our international sites, where we employ more than 1,000

people, we control every stage required to create a product: from design to production, and then on to marketing.

Our strength lies in our integrated strategy, our knowledge of the tractors on which our handling solutions are employed, and in our close links with the users of our products and services.

Our long-standing and respectful commitment to our workforce, our customers and all of our partners enables our mutually advantageous and harmonious international growth.

More information

Visit the website www.manurob.com

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