

NWPA SPE Monthly Meeting

THURSDAY APRIL 20, 2017

Beechwood Golf Club – 6401 Gorski Road – Fairview, PA (I90, exit18)

5.30pm Social

6.00pm Dinner

Speaker to follow

\$18 SPE member/\$20 non-member/\$10 SPE Student Member



Collaborative Robots: COBOTS

When asked how they envision a robot, most people either think of huge, unwieldy robots working in fenced off areas in large factories, or they think of futuristic cyberbots mimicking human behavior. Somewhere in between these two scenarios lies a new emerging reality: A new class of robots, dubbed collaborative robots, or simply *cobots*, poised to bridge the gap between fully-manual assembly and fully-automated manufacturing lines. Unlike their big brothers working inside safety fencing at automobile plants and other large assembly lines, collaborative robots are lightweight, flexible and can easily be moved and reprogrammed to solve new tasks, meeting the short-run production and other challenges. Innovative force-sensing technology enables the UR-robot to automatically stop operating if it encounters obstacles in its path. This means the robot can work right alongside employees with no safety guarding after performed risk assessment. Today's presentation includes background information, software demonstration and ease of use integration.

Speaker: Ben Mintz, Systems Engineer, Intek

Benjamin Mintz, based in Cranberry, Pa., is an engineer with Intek Systems part of Neff Group Distributors Inc., automation distributors of best-in-class products that include robotics and end effectors, motion control, pneumatics, sensing, engineered solutions, machine vision, safety, and structural. He is a 2002 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Engineering, has a decade and a half experience in helping customers find solutions that increase productivity and quality while reducing costs. He is able to do this by combining his 9 years of previous experience in manufacturing with a focused product portfolio and internal and external support network.

Menu: Pizza and Wings Buffet, Garden Salad

RSVP: www.nwpaspe.org or vial email to lad115@psu.edu

We hope to see you there!