

Mazak and Cisco Collaboration for IIoT Start of sales of the MAZAK SMART BOX™ in Japan

Yamazaki Mazak Corporation and Cisco Systems G.K. have reached a collaboration agreement to develop products for the safe connection of machine tools and other production equipment in a factory, to perform analysis of Big Data and to accelerate the use of the IIoT by manufacturers for productivity improvement.

Mazak Corporation developed a platform for convenient and highly secure network interface – the MAZAK SMARTBOX™ utilizing the MTConnect®, standard open protocol in the U.S.A. in 2015. This effectively met the requirements of digital factory integration for free-flow uniform data sharing of machines cyber security protection. At the heart of the MAZAK SMARTBOX™ is Cisco's Connected Machines solution which incorporates Cisco net-working, security and computer technologies.

Yamazaki Mazak has first implemented the MAZAK SMARTBOX™ in our own operations at the Mazak Corporation factory in Kentucky, U.S.A. and the Oguchi factory, headquarters in Japan. With the MAZAK SMARTBOX, Mazak continues to drive toward its iSMART Factory™ using advanced manufacturing cells and systems together with full digital integration to achieve and analyze manufacturing big data.

Mazak is taking another positive step for improving productivity and minimizing machine downtime by utilizing Big Data analytics in the cloud. This is made possible by Cisco cloud technologies together with Cisco's connected Machine Solution which utilizes the MAZAK SMARTBOX™

Sales of the MAZAK SMARTBOX™ started at the IMTS2016 held in Chicago. After that it is exhibited during JIMTOF2016 at Tokyo Big Sight starting from November 17th and officially started sales in Japan at the same time. During JIMTOF2016, Yamazaki Mazak offers various advanced technologies the manufacturing industries can use with the IIoT.

1. Background of the collaboration

Both Mazak and Cisco are members of the MTConnect® Institute. And both companies have the same vision to accelerate the use of the IIoT for manufacturing industries and also recognize that this can not be done by one company alone. In this environment, Mazak started the development project of the MAZAK SMARTBOX™ in 2015. Through this joint project, Mazak and Cisco have agreed to make it possible for manufacturers to accelerate their use of the IIoT and to further develop the MAZAK SMARTBOX™ as well as Big Data analytics on the cloud.

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