Hot Disk Pick and Place Robot

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ABSTRACT

The Project is aimed to provide an automation in handling of different type of hot discs prior to forming operation.

In Present situation, hot discs (approx. at 750°C) are guided to operator by conveyor from the furnace. Operator pics the disc with the help of tongue and places it on forming setup. The process is slightly time consuming, due to that the temperature of disc decreases and that results in decrease in forming quality. In addition to that, as the weight of disc is quite high (22 to 35kg/disc), the process was taking large amount of human efforts. To address all these issues, the team decided to Design a pick and place type robot in the work area.

The main objective of our project is to provide a pick and place robot which will handle all 12 types of discs with one End effector and also it must take minimum time to move the hot disc from conveyor to the forming setup to save time and increase productivity.

Keyword: Material handling robot, Robotic Arm, PLC

1. INTRODUCTION

Robotics deals with the design of robots their manufacture and applications. Robotics gained more importance in the modern era since it require less cost to operate than a human labour to do the same task, also once programmed robot will perform better than an experienced human labour. Now a days industry is turning towards computer based monitoring of tasks mainly due to the need for the increased productivity and delivery of the final products with maximum quality. Due to the inflexibility and generally high cost of hard computerization systems lead to the use of industrial robots.

Material handling can be defined as an integrated system involving such activities as moving, handling, storing and controlling of materials by means of gravity, manual effort or power activated machinery. Moving materials utilize time and space. Any movement of materials requires that the size, shape, weight and condition of the material, as well as the path and frequency of the move be analyzed.

1.1 Problem Definition

Hot discs (approx. at 900°C) are guided to operator by conveyor from the furnace. Operator pics the disc with the help of tongue and places it on forming setup. The process is slightly time consuming, due to that the temperature of disc decreases and that results in decrease in forming quality so to counter that plate need to put in furnace again and that was affecting production targets. In addition to that, as the weight of disc is quite high (22 to 35kg/disc), the process was causing backbone problems for operator and also there is higher chances of an accident. Process is not satisfying MNC norms for safety of operator.

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1.2 Objective

1. Our main objective is to make sure Robot will move hot disc from conveyor to forming setup in less than 13 sec.
2. To eliminate human interface.
3. To make the Robot which is Reliable in any hostile Environment.
4. To improve productivity.
5. To Improve Quality of product.

1.3 Scope

1. In future we can improve (lower) cycle time as well as positional accuracy by using Servomotor for all three axis.
2. Clamping method can also be improved by providing large clamping area.

Methodology

1. Study of Present Condition
2. Problem Definition
3. Possible Arrangements
4. Concept Generation
5. Design Approval Procedure (DAP)
6. Actual Design
7. Material Selection
8. Material Orders and Purchases
9. Assembly
10. Trial
11. Installation

Chart -2: Methodology

3. LITERATURE SURVEY

Modi Akshaykumar Mahendrakumar, Pravinkumar D. Patel [1]:

As per this project, the limitations of human work should be solved. The human works have many limitations likewise, laziness, less accuracy, time limits, less productivity, etc. In the industrial world, automation is one of the essential elements for development. It helps to reduce the need for humans and increase efficiency and productivity. The field of automation occupies large areas, mostly in industrial manufacturing. A robotic arm is a type of mechanical arm, usually programmable, with similar functions to a human arm. The links of such a manipulator are connected by joints allowing either rotational motion or linear displacement. Used for assembly operations, diecasting, gas welding, arc welding and spray painting, etc.

Mir Sajjad Hussain Talpur, Murtaza Hussain Shaikh [2]: As per this project, aim is to design and implement a PLC based on reliable and high performance robotic system for food / biscuit manufacturing line. We are referring a robot, which is capable of picking unbaked biscuits tray and places them into furnace and then after baking it picks the biscuits tray from the furnace. A special gripper is designed to pick and place the biscuits tray with flexibility.

Ravikumar Mourya, Amit Shelke[3]: In this project, mechanical construction is to build and assemble the robot body. The most suitable material to fabricate the structure of the arm has to be light and strong. Otherwise, the servo motor will not be able to pull up the arm and to perform the desired turning degree. Among the four materials considered (aluminum, Perspex, plastic polymer and carbon fiber), the aluminum is the most ideal material to be chosen as fabrication material.

4. EXPERIMENTAL WORK

Chart -2: Process flow diagram

3.1 Working

Hot disc from furnace is passed towards robot with the help of conveyor. As the disc touches end effector
, it gets actuated and holds the disc firmly. Robot have many positional sensors, hence when the input signal comes from PLC, hydraulic system and servomotor gets actuated, and produces desired output i.e hot disc gets placed accurately on locater pin of forming setup.

CONCLUSION
In this way, we conclude that this hot disc pick and place robot can be used to move the hot disc from conveyor to forming setup accurately and it can work in any hostile environment.

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