



JOB DESCRIPTION

About BITS, Pilani	<p>Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani has been declared as an "Institution of Eminence Deemed to be University" by the Central Government of India in exercise of the power conferred under Section 3 of the UGC Act 1956 and is a renowned science and technology institute with its headquarter located in Pilani, Rajasthan, India. In addition to Pilani, BITS Pilani has campuses in Dubai, Goa, Hyderabad and Mumbai.</p> <p>Work Integrated Learning Programmes (WILP) was established in 1979 focuses on providing continuing education to working professionals across different sectors. WILP has 45+ years of educating working professionals, 46+ programmes, 1,20,000+ working professionals graduated, 46,000+ working professionals enrolled.</p>
Industry/Service	Higher Education
Post/Job Title	Research Associate – Smart Manufacturing
Job Type	Regular, Full time
Reporting to	Associate Head Of Group
Will also work very closely with	Faculty & Staff
No. of positions	1
Job Location	Bengaluru
Principal Accountabilities & Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Smart Manufacturing Competency Centre (SMCC): Drive the development of Bengaluru and Pune SMCC labs as applied research hubs for advanced automation, cyber-physical systems, and digital manufacturing innovations aligned with industry needs.Industry Research & Problem-Solving Projects: Lead end-to-end investigation, design, and deployment of automation-based solutions for real industrial problem statements, generating validated prototypes, pilots, and publishable case studies.Industrial PLC & Automation Research: Develop and implement automation architectures using PLCs (Siemens, Delta, Mitsubishi, Allen-Bradley, etc.) for real-world industrial processes, with emphasis on system performance, reliability, and scalability.Control Logic Development: Build, optimize, and experimentally validate ladder logic, structured text, and HMI/SCADA interfaces to solve complex industrial automation challenges.Automated System Design & Commissioning: Research, design, and commission automation testbeds such as conveyor systems, machining setups, and pneumatic/hydraulic actuation rigs for experimentation and industry co-creation.Digital Twin & Simulation Research: Develop high-fidelity digital twin models using MATLAB/Simulink, Python, or open-source tools to support predictive maintenance, virtual commissioning, and process optimization studies.Machine Vision Research: Implement and evaluate vision-based inspection, defect detection, measurement, and guidance systems using cameras, illumination setups, AI/ML models, and edge-compute platforms for industry-grade applications.Industrial Robotics Research: Program and integrate 6-axis and SCARA robots (e.g., Epson, ABB, Fanuc) for material handling, assembly, welding, inspection, and human–

	<p>robot collaboration scenarios; conduct performance benchmarking and safety validation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Integration & Industrial Software Connectivity: Implement robust integration between automation systems, industrial databases, IIoT platforms, and analytics dashboards to support data-driven industrial decision-making. • Technical Documentation & Research Outputs: Prepare wiring diagrams, schematics, PLC logic documentation, simulation workflows, and generate research-focused case studies demonstrating measurable industrial impact. • Industry-Focused Training Delivery: Conduct specialized, research-informed hands-on training for industry professionals and students in automation, controls, digital twins, and advanced manufacturing technologies. • Lab Exercise Development: Create application-backed laboratory experiments and experiential learning modules that support course faculty in delivering cutting-edge automation curriculum. • WILP Lab Deployment & Assessment: Deliver lab components to WILP cohorts, ensuring rigorous assessment and alignment with industry use cases under faculty supervision. • Research Infrastructure Maintenance: Ensure periodic calibration, maintenance, and software lifecycle management of advanced automation research equipment and platforms. • Technical & Research Support for Students: Provide guidance in electrical troubleshooting, documentation, experimental design, and site-level commissioning activities for student and industry projects.
Qualification and Personal Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.Tech / B.E in Electrical/Electronics/Instrumentation Engineering with 5+ Years of industry experience • MTech / M.E degree in Mechatronics/Electrical/Electronics/Instrumentation/Embedded Systems/IoT Engineering with 3+ years of industry preferred • Extensive experience in industrial automation systems is essential, including end-to-end design, integration, troubleshooting, and deployment of automation solutions in real manufacturing or process industry environments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proven expertise in industrial PLC integration (Siemens, ABB, Rockwell, Schneider Electric) for multi-equipment automation, safety interlocks, and process optimization. - Hands-on experience with Siemens S7-1200/1500 series and TIA Portal for developing, validating, and commissioning automation logic. - Practical exposure to SCADA development, HMI configuration, and real-time data acquisition for industrial monitoring and control. - Strong working knowledge of industrial communication protocols such as OPC UA, Modbus TCP, MES connectivity, and MQTT for IIoT and system-level orchestration. • Applied experience with actuator systems, including VFDs, servo drives, pneumatic/hydraulic actuators, and their integration into automated cells, robotic systems, or process equipment. • Proficiency in electrical and control panel design using AutoCAD or EPLAN, including schematic creation, wiring layouts, bill of materials, and implementation support for commissioning.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foundational knowledge in microcontrollers, Python, and MATLAB, especially for automation prototyping, data acquisition, digital twin modeling, or machine vision/robotics integration, will be an added advantage.
Other Skill and Ability Requirements	Self-motivated, open to acquire new skills, able to travel frequently to other locations based on need.