

Sistemi e Tecnologie Industriali Intelligenti per il Manifatturiero Avanzato Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

# Robotics towards EVs battery pack disassembly: technologies, requests, standards and safety requirements

Enrico Villagrossi, Researcher











CNR-STIIMA is involved in the **Hub for the Circular Economy and Manufacturing** (EcoCirc) activities, funded by **Regione Lombardia**.

From 2021 CNR and Regione Lombardia are creating a technical demonstration that will be the backbone of the next Hub.



- Total budget of EcoCIRC: 10.056.415euro
- Investment by Regione Lombardia: 5.000.000euro
- CNR-STIIMA budget: 993.083euro (of which 490.000euro funded by RL)



Duration: 36 months

Figure 1: Structure of the EcoCIRC workplan.

Dissemination, training e transfer of results to the

**Circular Economy Regional Hub.** 

WP8



- In the EU, the End-of-Life Vehicles (ELV) management of vehicles is regulated by the EC Directive [2000/53/EC], which sets goals for the reuse and recycle of materials.
- The ELV management in the automotive sector is dominated by recycling, and only a minimal part of the components are regenerated and reused in the after-sales market.



- In the EU, Directive 2006/66 EU regulates the management system of batteries and accumulators, based on a traditional business model conceived for spent portable batteries and oriented to destructive waste recycling; such directive is nowadays adapted to EV batteries collection. The new regulation is expected in 2023.
- Regardless of whether it is planned to recycle or reuse battery components, sorting and disassembly are required to improve the results of the following processes.



energy, home, office)

### STIIMA

#### Current practice







- The EVs follow the same stream as traditional cars.
- A network of car dismantlers collects the car and is in charge of treating the vehicle.
- The battery disassembly is mainly addressed with manual operations.
- Operators work without knowledge of the battery pack.





#### The Challenge



- Lacking standards for battery pack production.
- Battery packs are not designed to be disassembled (e.g., plates joined with sealing and mastic, using of one-way screws, etc.).
- Lacking information on the status of the battery packs before disassembly.
- The battery pack disassembly is a dangerous and harsh activity.

CarE-Service

CNR-STIIMA coordinated the CarE-Service project (https://www.careserviceproject.eu/) (Horizon 2020, GA 776851).





Jeep Renegade Plug-in Hybrid.



Fiat 500e low-range.

#### The research infrastructure

Develop a **team of industrial robots** and **industrial mobile robots**, each with a different payload and reaching, **combined with human intervention** for a bunch of operations.



- 26 Degree of Freedom available in the robotic cell.
- Multiple robots cooperating on the same task.
- High autonomy to cope with the huge product variability.
- Simplified usage for the operators.
- Multiple tools for each robot to address a wide range of tasks.
- Robot tools are designed to cope with potentially explosive atmospheres (ATEX).

STIM



#### **Research** Topics









https://cari.unibs.it/home-page

## We will organize soon (fall 2023) an event dedicated to inaugurating the demonstrator!



#### CELLA ROBOTICA PER IL DISASSEMBLAGGIO DI PACCHI BATTERIE

Cella robotica prototipale per lo studio e sviluppo di soluzioni e tecnologie innovative per il disassemblaggio semi-automatico di pacchi batterie.



#### Thank you for your attention!

enrico.villagrossi@stiima.cnr.it