



Is a Cobot Worth the Investment ?

Let's Run the Numbers



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Introduction

Labor shortages. Missed production targets. Rising costs. These are daily challenges for modern manufacturers—and collaborative robots (cobots) may be the smartest capital investment you can make to solve them.

In this eBook, we break down the real costs and return of implementing cobots in your facility.

The True Cost of a Cobot Project

What does it actually cost to get started with a cobot?

Item	Estimated Cost
Cobot Arm	\$25,000–\$50,000
Tooling & Accessories	\$1,000–\$5,000
Integration & Setup	\$5,000–\$10,000
Optional Add-ons (vision, conveyors, mounts)	\$2,000–\$10,000

Total Investment = \$35,000–\$75,000

**Expected lifespan
5–8 years**

**Annualized cost
Often just \$5–\$7/hour**



Comparing to Human Labor

Hiring an entry-level operator at \$22/hour sounds affordable but the real costs include

- Benefits, insurance, taxes
- Recruiting, onboarding, and training time
- Overtime and burnout
- Turnover and retraining cycles

**Estimated annual cost per worker:
\$65,000–\$75,000**

A cobot doesn't call in sick, doesn't need retraining, and runs 24/7.



The ROI Picture



Cobot ROI is faster than most manufacturers expect

- Breakeven often in < 12 months
- Can qualify for Section 179 tax deductions
- May be leased or financed to reduce upfront cash burden
- Grant funding may be available in your state

Example: A \$50K cobot investment can replace a \$70K/year role and pay for itself in under 9 months

Making the Business Case

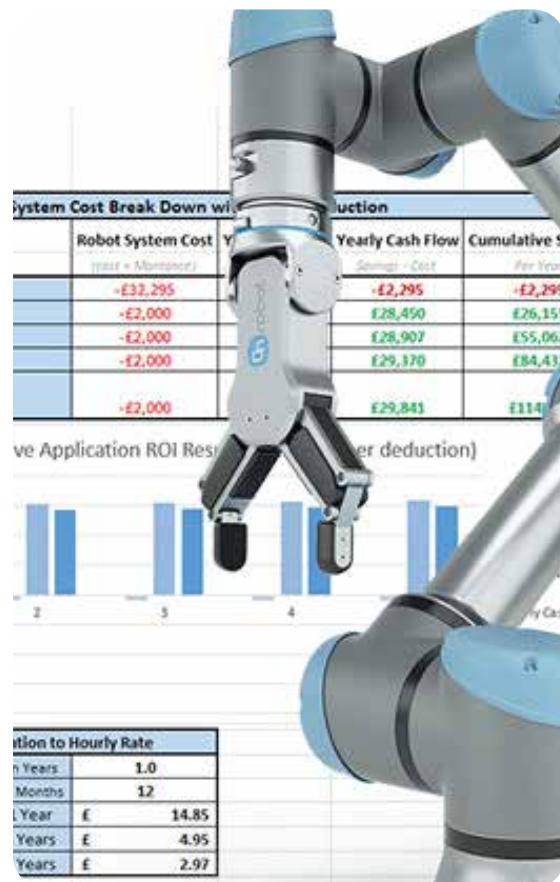
Need to convince others?

We can help you

- Model your expected ROI
- Break down capital vs operating expenses
- Build a case for board, finance, or ownership approval

Tools available

- Custom ROI proposal
- Cobot Readiness Quiz
- On-site or virtual consultation



What Other Manufacturers Are Doing



Precision Fabricator

Added one \$50K cobot; replaced \$70K/yr role; ROI in 9 months

Medical Packaging

Used tax incentives to cover 30% of cobot costs

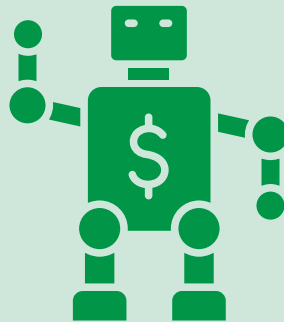
CNC Shop

Leased a system for \$1,200/month, saving \$4,000/month in labor

Conclusion



Cobots aren't just automation for big factories. They're smart capital assets that help small and mid-sized manufacturers scale, stabilize operations, and compete.



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