INTELLIGENT ROBOTICS AND QUALITY OF LIFE AT WORK: COMPETE, CONTROL OR *COLLABORATE?*

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

In the next decade, we expect to see significant workforce developments with continued progress in the fields of data, artificial intelligence, augmented reality, machine learning and intelligent robotics. New types of jobs will be created, some will be lost, many will change.
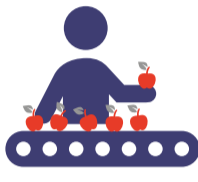
KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

50% of all paid activities are estimated to be automatable by existing technology

A closer look at tasks within roles reveals huge variation in the proportion that could be automated:

less than **10%** in the case of a psychiatrist

over **90%** in the case of a fruit or vegetable grader

about **50%** in the case of a nursing assistant

Although **one billion** jobs could be automated with current technology, it has not yet happened; **organisations can envision and plan for desirable scenarios**

Intelligent robotics could benefit occupational health by assisting workers in dangerous, physically demanding activities:

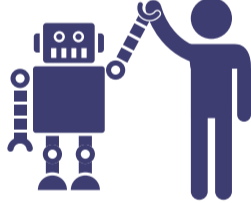in the US, work-related musculoskeletal disorders account for over **600,000** injuries and illness and **34%** of all lost workdays reported annually

WHAT DID WE LEARN?

There are many trade-offs to navigate between, for example:

a focus on cost-minimisation framed in terms of human-robot competition for jobs and resources

a focus on value-adding human-robot collaboration framed in terms of worker quality of life

loss of human control or decision-making autonomy

Looking at the detail of tasks and activities rather than jobs and roles, applying a quality of life lens, we can develop valuable human-robot collaboration.

There are many potential benefits of intelligent robotics in the workplace:

reduced exposure to dangerous, risky or uncomfortable environments

more time for human workers to spend interacting with other people

Realising the benefits depends on our ability to prepare, engage and value human workers.

Find out more by reading the full report *Intelligent robotics and Quality of Life at work: compete, control or collaborate?* **here**