

Trends at SPS Fair 2025

Industrial AI becomes real

AI is no longer a POC playground:
It's becoming a core criterion for
automation platforms

From chatbots and code generation
in engineering to AI agents and MCP
servers as interface in operations

Openness & Co- Creation take the lead

Customers no longer settle for "marketing openness".

True open automation ecosystems empower choice, speed and resilience. While closed platforms increasingly reveal their financial and operational downsides.

Power to the edge

Why send data to the cloud if insights can happen right where machines run?

AI inference and analytics shift towards edge devices enabled by accelerators and flexible software support for models.

Software-defined automation & Industrial DevOps

Control software transitions from one-off engineering artifacts to continuously improved digital products.

SDA is evolving from a vision to reference architectures, app-based engineering, version control and automated deployment accelerating development cycles dramatically.

Software-defined automation & the great flexibility

Special hardware gets replaced by software functions and allows PLC, Motion and vision software on one industrial controller.

These automation software apps can be deployed on edge controllers, IPC or server directly bare-metal or virtualized.

Security and sustainability as hard constraints

Both OT security and energy efficiency have moved from compliance checkboxes to non-negotiable design principles.

Future-proof equipment must deliver resilience and performance right from day one.

Invest in next-gen engineering talent

Formats like the SPS Makeathon, Young Talents Day and initiatives like EduDemos are fostering practical skills in automation and IIoT to address the labor need.



**What trends did
you see at the fair?
Let's discuss!**