Today, the market buzzword is automation and robotics, with almost every company vying for the best automation technology to improve the quality of their production process at a lower cost. But the lack of qualified and experienced engineers is creating challenges to keep up with and match the rate of growth and skills demand in the automation industry.

At this juncture, governed by the principles of creating a one-stop automation solution, Andrew and David Fletcher established Fletcher Group Automation (FGA) in 2005. “Our core competencies in designing, engineering, commissioning, and support help our clients achieve their business goals to remain competitive in the industry,” extols Andrew Fletcher, CEO of FGA.

With a cadre of over 80 talented engineers, 13 years of business experience in automating many manufacturing facilities, and a collective engineering team experience of over 100 years, FGA extends its services to analysis, robotic simulation, electrical/software design engineering, startup and commissioning of robotic automation projects. At the outset, the FGA team analyzes the existing robotic automation processes of the clients to provide insights on deficiencies, cycle time, production rates, cost-saving opportunities, issues with equipment, and production downtime. Clients commission FGA to optimize the processes through modification of the existing or design of a new robotic automation solution to meet business requirements.

“Our core competency is in designing, engineering, commissioning, and providing support to automate a client’s business in a single package”

FGA understands that repetitive tasks can lead to a blasé attitude toward a job resulting in negligence and errors; therefore, they automate data mining and report generation to free-up valuable brainpower as well as employee time. The latest focus is Industry 4.0, which is the trend of automation and data exchange across departments, where computers and robotic automation are connected in an entirely new way to form the “smart factory”. To facilitate seamless data exchange across departments, FGA offers a business process automation solution where computers and automation are connected remotely with very little input from human operators. By joining the office and plant floor systems in a new cooperative way, the systems become Internet of Things and client reaps the benefits of data consistency, elimination of manual errors, and communication with humans in real-time.

In fact, with the intention to help clients leverage the best of benefits that FGA’s solution provides, the company extends experienced manpower to be leveraged by the client while operating and maintaining the automated facilities. Fletcher remarks that the company remains a popular choice in the market due to its automation training support program, which helps clients to become self-sufficient with their robotics software and automation technology. On this note, he shares a client interaction with a leading Fortune 500 company, where the team visited the manufacturing facilities of the client to create a detailed assessment of the existing processes and shortcomings. Based on these insights, the FGA team engineered, and implemented a robotic and business automation solution to fit the client’s requirements.

After gaining momentum in the automobile, alternative energy, mining and aerospace arena, FGA is now laying the groundwork to open its unique range of robotic and business automation services to other industrial sectors. On the geographical front, FGA has expanded its services and is planning to launch beyond the North American market in the next couple of years. On a concluding note, Fletcher shares, “Automation is necessary to survive in today’s global market. And with us, clients will have to deal with only one vendor instead of a multitude of providers.”