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CASE STUDY · MARLUC SYNOPSIS

# HD Hyundai Robotics AI agents for robot programming

IMPLEMENTED 2026 · MANUFACTURING AND INDUSTRIAL · SOUTH KOREA · BAND C · CLAIMED ONLY

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A Korean industrial robot maker uses AI agents, built with Palantir, to analyse robot programs and suggest fixes that engineers then refine. By its account, the average time to solve a problem fell from 21.5 days to 7.9 days.

**ABOUT THIS SYNOPSIS**

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Facts and figures are as reported by the sources listed below, which may be incomplete, self-reported or out of date. Check the original source before relying on any figure.

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NOTICE WORDING LAST UPDATED 16 NOVEMBER 2026

AT A GLANCE

AI used: AI agents that analyse industrial robot programs and propose improvements for engineers to review.

Implemented: 2026.  Grade: band C, Process change, Claimed only.

Headline result, as reported: Average problem-solving time cut from 21.5 days to 7.9 days since AI agents were introduced in August 2026, by the company's account

## 1 · The case

The facts, as reported by the 4 sources listed at the end. Where a source is silent, the field says "Not reported".

### Organisation

HD Hyundai Robotics. South Korean industrial robot maker and robot solutions company within the HD Hyundai group. The group widened its partnership with the US software company Palantir Technologies to affiliates including HD Hyundai Robotics in January 2026. Canvas block: 4. Operations and process. Also 5. People and skills, 6. Data and technology.

### Business challenge

The challenge. Engineers had to inspect robot movements by hand and repeatedly adjust operating sequences, routes and speeds, which took time and was hard to standardise, per The Korea Herald.

### Who implemented it

Palantir Technologies (Software vendor): Developed the AI agents with HD Hyundai Robotics. In-house (In-house): HD Hyundai Robotics: on-site engineers apply and refine the agents' proposals.

### Technology (SEAM pillar E)

SEAM types: T7 AI agents. Deployment: Not reported. Vendors and products: Palantir Technologies.

Where it was built in: Agents analyse existing robot programs in HD Hyundai Robotics' problem-solving work; on-site engineers refine the proposals.

### What changed

Before: engineers inspected robot movements and adjusted programs by hand. After: AI agents propose improvements and engineers check and refine them. By the company's account, average task time fell from 21.5 days to 7.9 days. [1] [2] [3] [4]

### What it cost

Not reported. HD Hyundai's group-wide software agreement with Palantir was reported by Reuters, as relayed by the Korea Economic Daily, to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars; the share for HD Hyundai Robotics is not reported.

### What it saved

By the company's account: average task time down about 63%, from 21.5 days to 7.9 days. Expected: robot programming costs down by more than 50%. No baseline or measurement method is published. [1] [2] [3] [4]

### Governance and control

Engineers review and refine the agents' proposals, by the company's account. Senior executives from both companies meet regularly as a steering committee. Data protection was the theme of the Palantir event where the results were presented; specific controls on the agents are not reported.

**S2 · Accountable owner · Claimed**
Senior executives from HD Hyundai Robotics and Palantir hold regular steering committee meetings on the direction and priorities of the work, by the companies' account. [2] [3]

**A1 · Safe use · Not reported**
Not reported.

**A2 · Human in the loop · Claimed**
Engineers review and refine the improvements the agents propose, by the company's account. [1] [2]

**A3 · Monitoring and assurance · Not reported**
Not reported beyond the company's own before and after task-time figure.

**A4 · Vendor AI · Not reported**
Not reported. Palantir is the partner; terms and data handling for this use are not described.

**A5 · Agent controls · Claimed**
Agents propose program changes and engineers decide on them, by the company's account; limits on what agents may change directly are not reported. [1]

**A6 · Standards and regulation · Not reported**
Not reported.

### What worked, what did not, what is unproven

WORKED

– Shorter problem-solving time, by the company's account: from 21.5 days to 7.9 days on average.

DID NOT

– Not reported

UNPROVEN

– The expected cut of more than 50% in robot programming costs.

– How the 63% figure was measured, over how many tasks, and against what baseline.

– Whether the planned change in engineers' roles to field solution specialists takes place.

### Timeline

Jan 2026 HD Hyundai widens its Palantir partnership to group affiliates, including HD Hyundai Robotics [4]

Aug 2026 AI agents introduced into robot problem-solving work [1]

Nov 2026 Chief technology officer reports a 63% cut in average task time at a Palantir event in New York [1]

## 2 · Grade and SEAM assessment

MarLuc's opinion, made on the evidence above. How cases are graded: marluc.co.uk/case-studies/how-we-rate

### Level of change and impact

Claimed: B. Grade: C, Process change. Proof: Claimed only. Level of change: Process change.

Process change (Level 2, band C), claimed as an operating model change (band B) through redefined engineering roles. The role change is planned; only the cycle time result is reported so far.

A redesigned troubleshooting process: AI agents analyse robot programs first and engineers refine the proposals, with a reported cut in cycle time. The company describes a wider change to engineers' roles; that change is planned and not yet shown.

### The SEAM view and lessons learnt

The design keeps engineers at the point of judgement: agents analyse programs and propose changes, and people decide. The reported gain is in cycle time on a defined task, which is where agents are easiest to measure. For a larger engineering organisation, the transferable point is to measure the before and after on a named task, and to treat role redesign as a separate change with its own evidence.

1. Start agents on a narrow task with a measurable cycle time.
2. Keep an engineer's review between agent proposals and live equipment.
3. Publish the baseline and sample behind headline savings.

### Evidence

Score 1 of 4. Self-reported: company figures presented by its chief technology officer and reported by Korean press.

Evaluation method. Self-reported company figures: before and after average task time, method not published.

Status. Ongoing: the partnership continues, with steering committee meetings and further use cases planned, by the company's account in November 2026.

## 3 · Original sources

Read these in full. To challenge a fact or a grade, use the contact form at marluc.co.uk or the link on https://marluc.co.uk/case-studies/hd-hyundai-robotics-ai-agents


[1] The Korea Herald: HD Hyundai Robotics cuts troubleshooting time 63% with Palantir AI
https://www.koreaherald.com/article/10921723

[2] The Elec: HD Hyundai Robotics expands physical AI partnership with Palantir
https://www.thelec.net/news/articleView.html?idxno=15151

[3] Yonhap News, via Hanminjok Center: HD Hyundai Robotics and Palantir advance physical AI solutions (Korean)
https://www.koreancenter.or.kr/news/articleView.html?idxno=1432852

[4] Korea Economic Daily: HD Hyundai speeds AI transformation with Palantir (Korean, January 2026)
https://www.hankyung.com/article/2026012147261



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