

High impact solution

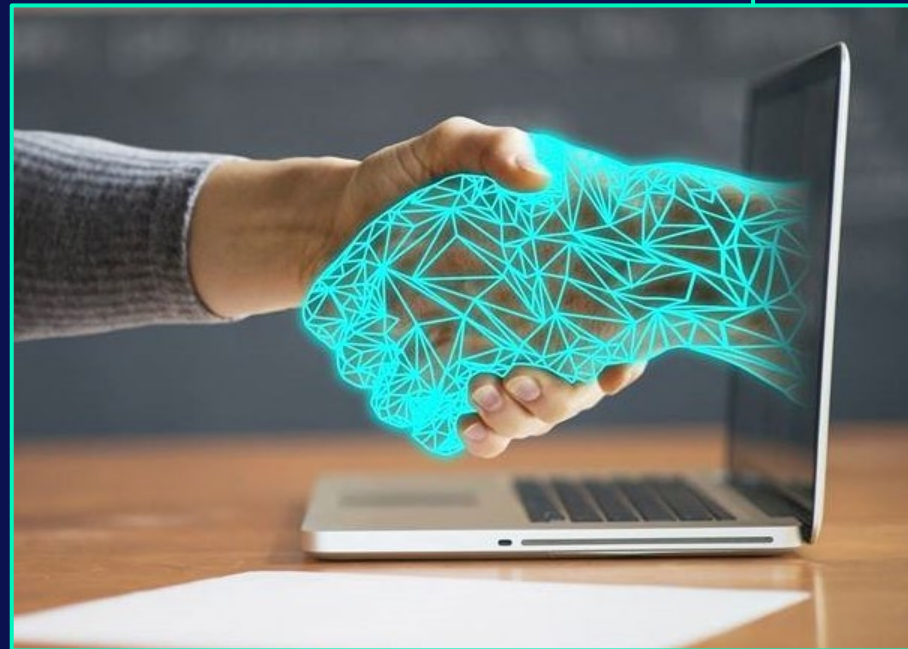
AI Foreman: ABB Vaasa

Business need

Allocation of human work to production is based on manual work by foremen and employees, and the competence matrices used as a basis are manually managed spreadsheets. Utilisation of contemporary AI tools is seen as a way to improve this situation in multiple ways, including improvement of employee wellbeing.

Solution

- Brainstorm with the consortium on a concept of an AI foreman that collaborates with human foremen and employees
- Identify data sources for the AI to use as a basis for work allocation propositions
- Redesign competence matrices and their management to include wellbeing information and utilisation by the AI foreman concept



Impact

- Workload is more evenly balanced, leading to improvements in wellbeing and reduction of overtime and extra shifts
- Foremen physical presence in production is increased, leading to better task guidance and faster learning
- Productivity is increased through work allocation that is fair, transparent, and based on wellbeing factors

Outlook

ABB Vaasa has piloted AI foreman and is committed to develop it further in the factory site, as well as potentially other ABB sites in the future. AI foreman has multiple avenues for future development and represents a wider disruption in work planning and management.