

Future Factories: AI, Robots, & the Reshaping of Competitive Manufacturing

32ND ANNUAL AUTOMOTIVE INSIGHTS SYMPOSIUM
5 FEBRUARY 2026

KRISTIN DZICZEK

KRISTIN.DZICZEK@CHI.FRB.ORG

POLICY ADVISOR

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF CHICAGO

The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago or the Federal Reserve System.



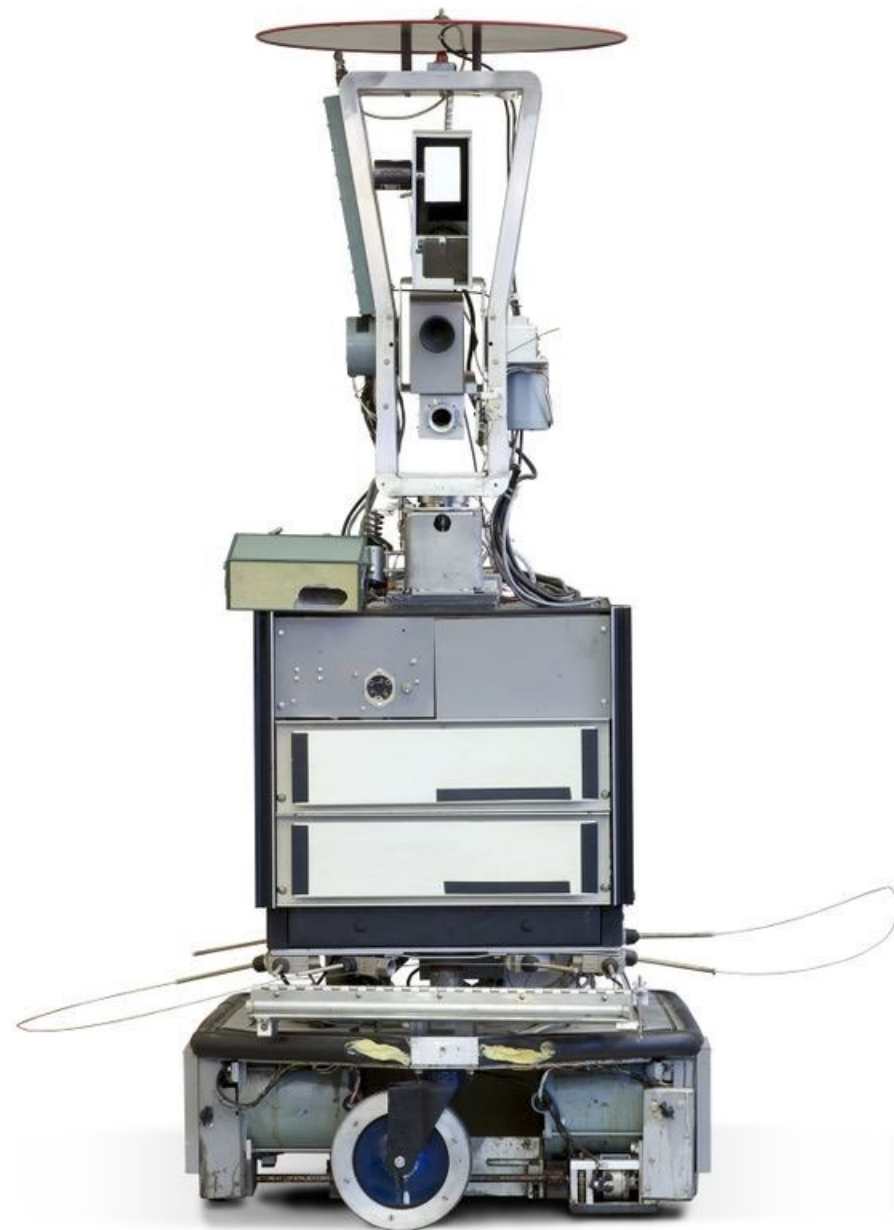
UNIMATION, INC.

The First Industrial Robot: Installed in GM Ternstedt Plant, Trenton, New Jersey in 1961

Source: The Collections of The Henry Ford. Gift of Unimation. (Not on exhibit to the public.)

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK *of* CHICAGO

Shakey: The First AI Robot, Invented at Stanford Research Institute in 1966



Source: [Computer History Museum](#)



www.chicagofed.org

The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent or reflect the views of S&P Global Mobility. S&P Global Mobility makes no representation or warranty of any kind, express or implied, regarding the contents or data herein. The completeness and accuracy of the S&P Global Mobility data or statements thereto are not warranted. Any S&P Global Mobility data or reference is not and shall not constitute or is intended to constitute financial advice in any way whatsoever. S&P Global Mobility data and information shall not be relied upon for any investment activities.