

Re: Need advice for designing chem. robots

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- *From:* Marvin <physchem@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sun, 26 Mar 2006 15:02:23 -0500
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george_D wrote:

Hi!

My name is George. I'm not a chemist, but I've worked for a startup bioengineering company for 5 years and I've taken general chem.

I'm a computer engineer by profession, specializing in robotics used in chem. labs. In fact my job at the bio company was to build 4 robotic DNA synthesizers.

For some time I've wanted to design a number of small, table top, and low cost robots for the chem. industry. At this point it's mostly just a hobby, but if it works out I'd like to start a business. I think I've got some good ideas, but my problem is that I still don't have a good idea of what chemists really need. I'm hoping that some of you can guide me and give me some advise.

There is a good local college (that's where I took chem.) near me and I'm getting some help from the chem. teachers there. And I think I can get access to their lab to do some experiments.

I've heard of the terms; QC assays, combinatorial chemistry, general synthesis, but I only have a vague idea of what they are. Other than that, think what I need to know from chemists is; "As a robotics engineer, what could I do to make your job a lot easier?"

Thanks George

You are asking somebody to do your market research free. Do you do engineering free?

I am a chemist who has done some market research on new lab products. I'll give you one piece of free advice. When you design a product based on the sort of question you asked, you get one loaded with every the features anyone else's products have In computer terms, it is what leads to bloated software.

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