INDUSTRY 5.0: A NEW REVOLUTION OR IS IT ALREADY HERE?

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Abstract

Purpose – Industry 5.0 complements the existing "Industry 4.0" approach by specifically putting research and innovation at the service of the transition to a sustainable, human-centric and resilient European industry. The purpose of the article is to determine whether Lithuanian companies of processing industry has been sufficiently digitalized and are ready to completely adopt the principles of Industry 5.0 within all segments of the value-chain.

Research methodology **–** to assess the extent to which Lithuanian companies are ready for Industry 5.0, an in-depth descriptive analysis of installed digital technologies in these companies was executed. The research on already-applied digital tools and technologies in those companies was made during the phase of analysis.

Findings – There were these positive changes of performance indicators among the companies identified: less employees required; existing employees' productivity increases, production size and quantity grow. These adjustments increase the companies' turnover and strengthen their market competitive advantage.

Research limitations – in order to have a representative survey, more companies from different industry sectors should be involved in the research.

Practical implications – during the conduction of analysis, it was found out that there were major challenges deterring the Lithuanian manufacturing industry enterprises to take forward steps towards higher level of industrial digitalization

Originality/Value – The study examines how the Coronavirus crisis has highlighted the need for support and investments in transformation to Industry 5.0 and effective digital tools.

Keywords: Industry 5.0, digitalization, sustainability, industry transition, Lithuania

JEL Classification: L60, O14, Q01