Digital technologies are changing the factory floor. Additive manufacturing, augmented reality, industrial robots, machine learning, and the ever-growing Internet of Things are providing a manufacturing landscape of connected devices, digital data, and predictive analytics that will create a more efficient and productive manufacturing process. Here is how the evolution of the factory floor may look like in the years to come.

1. **Caterpillar leads all machinery manufacturers in 2018, with over $54 million in sales.**

   The process begins with the production of subparts for assembly via either CNC machining or additive machines, including 3D printers.

2. **Labor productivity increases with robot sales. In 2018, 38,000 industrial robots were sold, and labor productivity increased to 2.1 from 1.7 labor output per hour from 2017.**

   Once the parts are created, industrial-size robots, smaller and safer collaborative robots, or human operators work on assembly.

3. **Smart conveyor systems handle multiple packages varying in size and type in real-time.**

   By 2025, the Asia-Oceania region of the world will lead the conveyor system market with $3 billion in revenue.

4. **The sensor market for IoT is continuing to grow as the factory becomes more digitally enabled. The IoT sensor market will reach $65.4 billion by 2027, and the sensors will be used to collect data on production efficiency and preventative maintenance.**

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5. **Delivery of product using robots and exoskeleton suits for labor purposes.**

   Exoskeletons will help workers perform everyday manual labor tasks more safely and reduce possible injuries. Assistive exoskeletons will account for more than 50% of the market by 2028.

6. **Collaborative robots are growing, and by 2021 will own 24% of the market for industrial robots.**

   The top three use cases for augmented reality in the factory are employee training and education (52.8%), IoT enabled operations such as machine performance and productivity (52.2%), and communications between employees (46.3%).

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   **Sarcos Guardian XO**

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