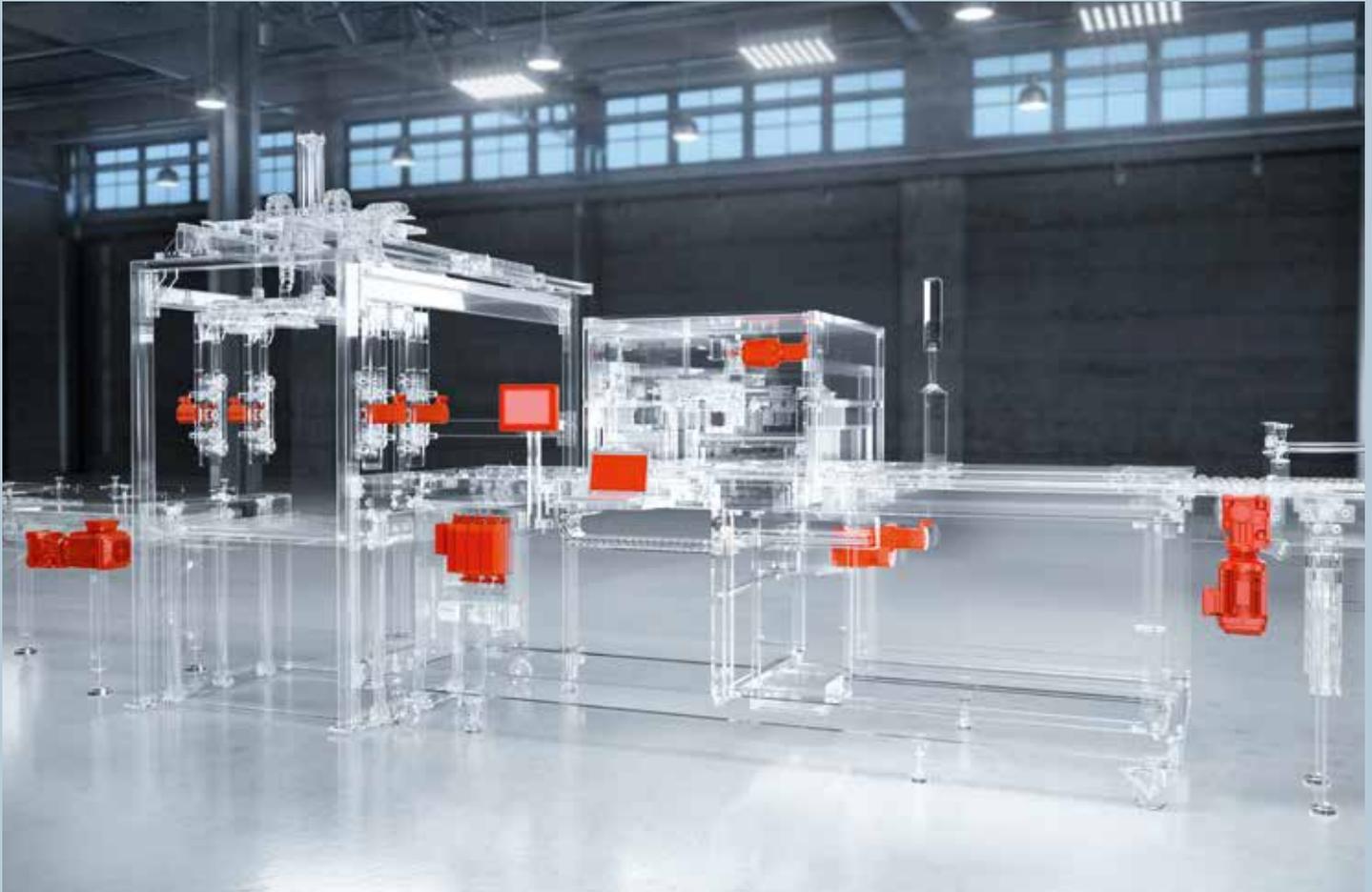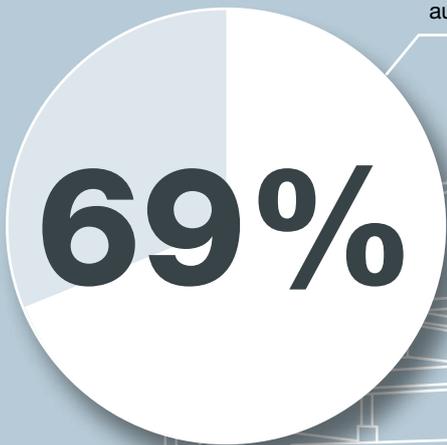# FACTSHEET

SURVEY
MACHINE AUTOMATION

Where are we headed? What's next for technology? What do you need to bear in mind in the future to keep up? We have been working to collect your experiences and expectations. Here are the results of our survey.
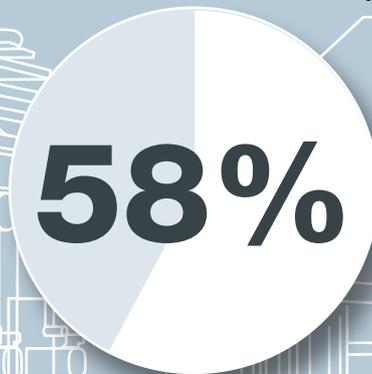
QUESTION 1

Which technical trends in machine automation do you consider to be the most important for development in the coming years? (Multiple answers possible)
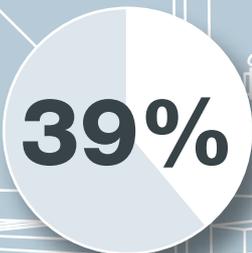
Pre-simulation of the automated machine

69%

Use of decentralized drive technology

58%

Web-based operator concept (e.g. HMI on mobile devices)

39%

35%

IPC-based control concept with integrated safety technology
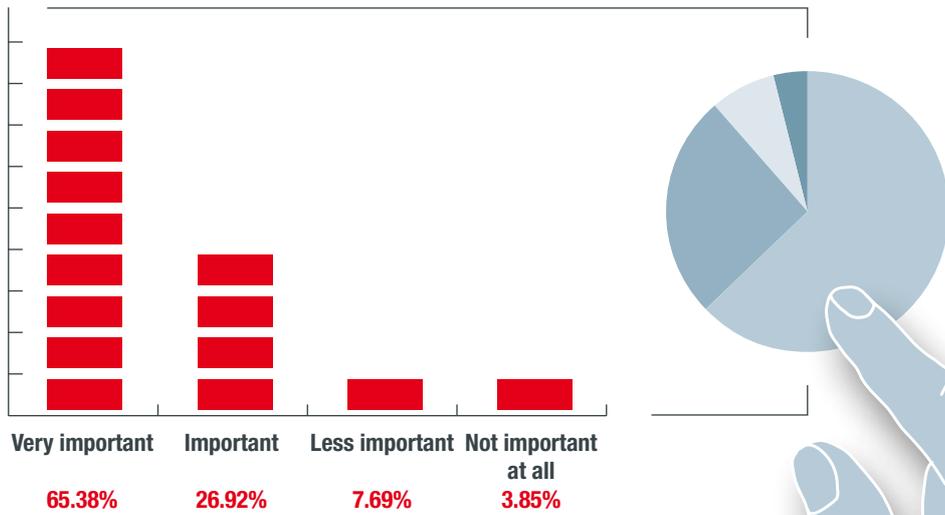
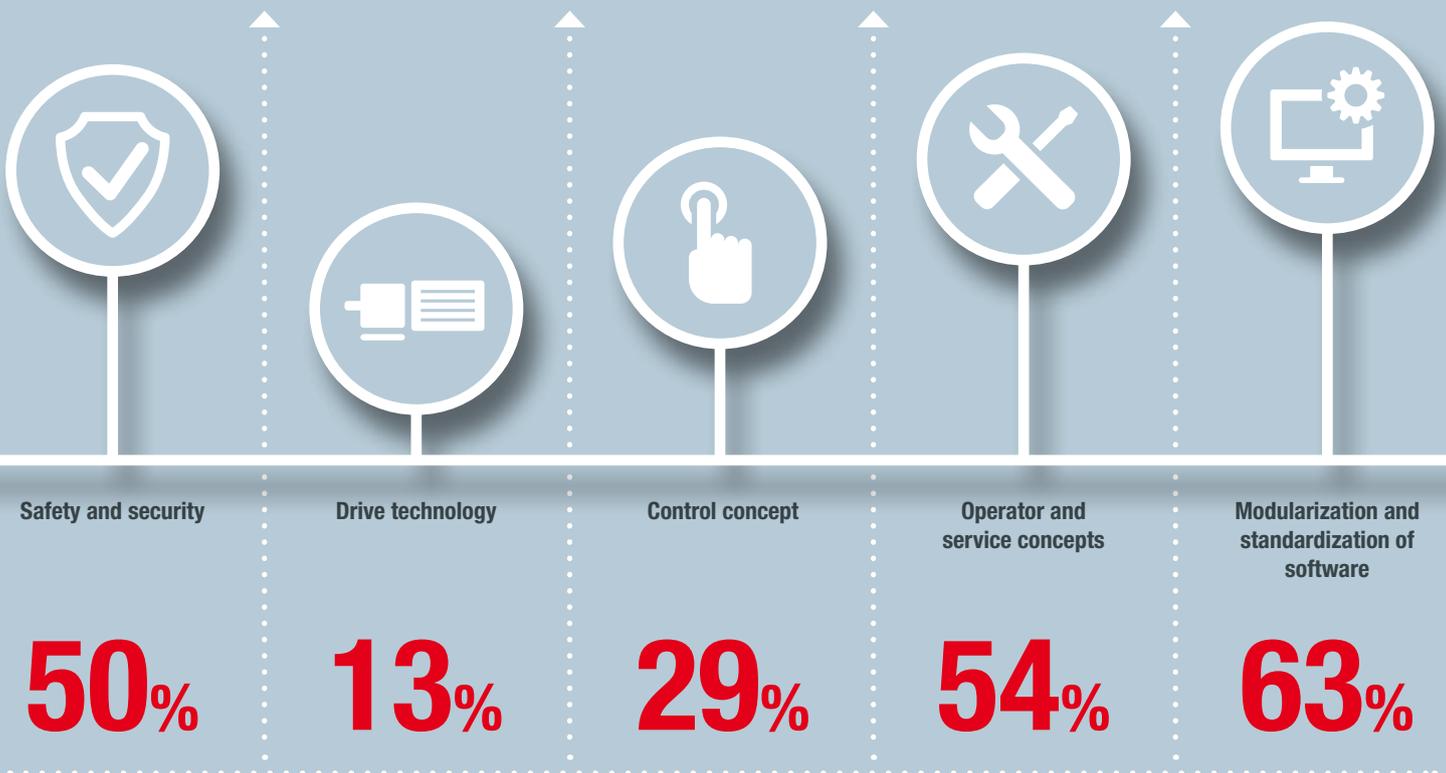**23%** Automated recipe management and format changeover

4% Other

QUESTION 2

How important to you is the engineering support aspect of the drive and automation partner for the development/implementation of a new generation of machines?
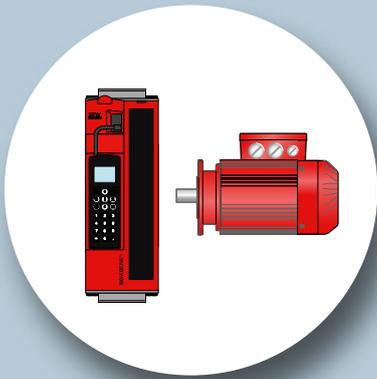
Very important	Important	Less important	Not important at all
65.38%	**26.92%**	**7.69%**	**3.85%**

QUESTION 3

Where do you see the need for optimization in the automation of your machines?
(Multiple answers possible)

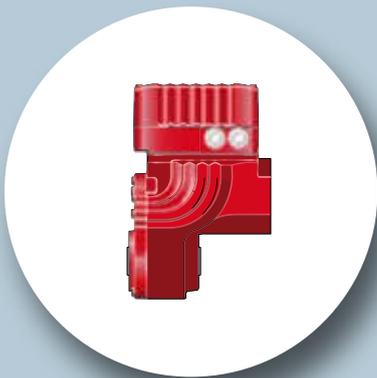| Safety and security	Drive technology	Control concept	Operator and service concepts	Modularization and standardization of software
50%	**13**%	**29**%	**54**%	**63**%

QUESTION 4

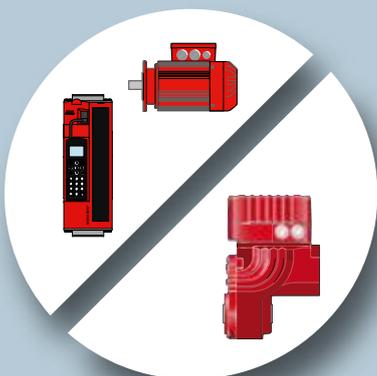**Which drive system do you use in your machines?**

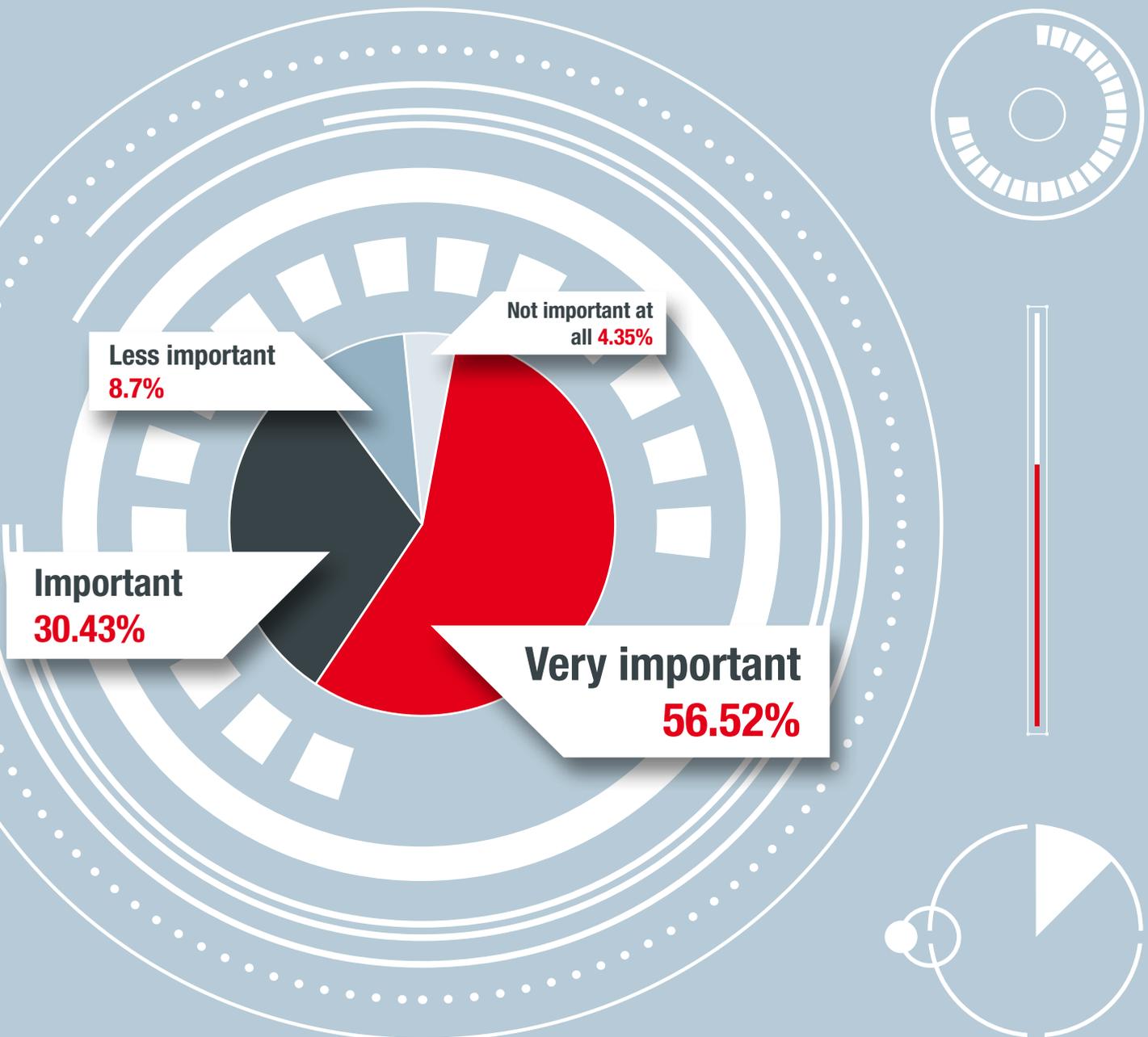Central drive system **21.74%**

Decentralized drive system **26.09%**

Mixed approach **60.87%**

QUESTION 5

How important are safe motion functions (e.g. safe speed, safe positioning, etc.) for you in your machines?

Not important at all 4.35%

Less important 8.7%

Important 30.43%

Very important 56.52%

QUESTION 6

Which solutions and technologies implemented in your machines would bring real added value to your (end) customers? (Multiple answers possible)

■_Web-based operator concept (use of mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones etc.)	**37.50%**
■_Safe access during active machine operation (e.g. during set-up or cleaning)	**50.00%**
■_Condition monitoring and preventive maintenance	**41.67%**
■_Virtual reality service and diagnostics capabilities	**37.50%**
■_Simplified maintenance and replacement concepts (e.g. automatic firmware download in the event of device replacement)	**66.67%**
■_Ready-made/simplified connection to company networks (incl. cloud connection)	**33.33%**
■_Other	**04.17%**

CONCLUSION

THE MOST IMPORTANT
TRENDS IN MACHINE AUTOMATION IN 2018

Pre-simulation for automated machines is clearly the key trend most people are interested in. Engineering support is also very important, while improvements can be made to modularization and standardization of software. Most machinery manufacturers use a combination of centralized and decentralized drive systems, and simplified maintenance and replacement concepts are seen as delivering real added value.

CONCLUSION
FOR SEW-EURODRIVE

We understand that machine automation requirements do not just vary from sector to sector – even within one sector, a wide range of application-specific expectations and demands have to be addressed. Our MOVIKIT® software modules are perfect for these diverse challenges – optimized to suit your applications and open to interfaces within your own application architecture.

How can we help you with your machine automation needs?

Feel free to contact us:
machine.automation@sew-eurodrive.de