Hi, may I speak to [name on recruiting file]?

My name is [name of caller], calling from the U.S. Census Bureau. I’m calling because we have you listed as the respondent for [company name] for the most recent Annual Survey of Manufactures. Do you remember completing that survey?

[If yes] I’m calling because we are looking at adding new questions to the ASM in future versions. We are trying to get in touch with respondents like yourself, to get feedback on our new questions. We want to find out if the questions make sense to respondents, and if not, how we might make changes to make them easier to understand.

We plan to be in the [MSA] area between [dates], and we were wondering if you might be available to meet with us to discuss these questions? The interviews would take place in your office building, to make it as convenient as possible.

[If yes] Great! Before we schedule the interview, we wanted to ask you a few questions to make sure these questions would apply to your company.

Does your plant/one of your plants have robots or robotic equipment?

[If unsure] We define this as an automatically controlled, reprogrammable, multipurpose machine used in automation operations, commonly used in operations like welding, material handling, machine tending, dispensing, and pick & place.

[If no] Unfortunately for us, I don’t think these questions apply to your company, so I don’t think we should schedule an interview. But I appreciate your time today, thank you!

[If yes] Great, it sounds like these questions would apply to your company. In addition to yourself, are there other employees that we would be knowledgeable about the use and value of this kind of robotic equipment at plants in your company? What dates work for you? [Proceed to schedule interview.]