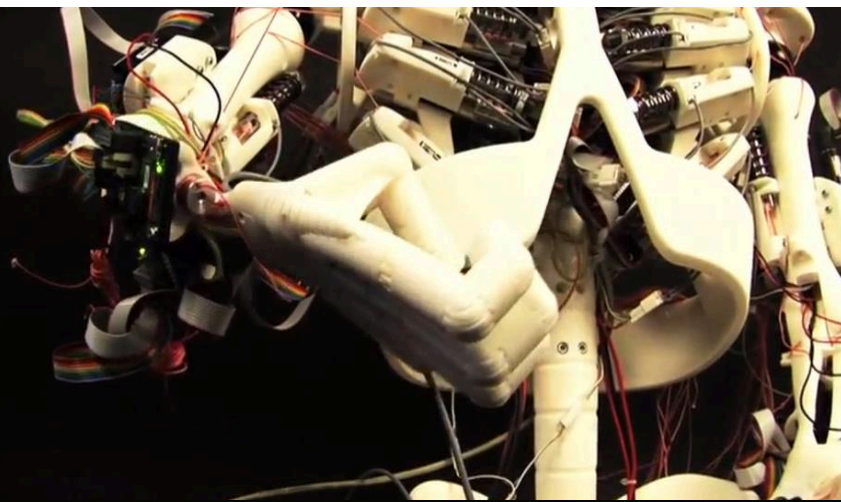


ROBOY 2013

PRESS OVERVIEW DECEMBER 2012



National

SRF, 17.12.12: Roboy – die Geburt eines Roboters 3

International

United Kingdom

Phys.org, 31.12.12: Zurich AI team plans March delivery for humanoid Roboy 6

Daily Mail, 27.12.12: Roboy, the robotic 'boy' set to help humans with everyday tasks 8

Wired, 27.12.12: Artificial tendons give natural movements to robot boy 10

Germany

BZ Berlin, 30.12.2012: Das ist Roboy, Ihre neue Haushaltshilfe 11

Sweden

IDG, 27.12.2012: Robotpojke "föds" på nio månader 13

Spain

Vanguardia, 27.12.12: Roboy, el niño robot que "nacerá" en 9 meses 14

Italy

Webnews, 27.12.12: Roboy, il robot umanoide più avanzato al mondo 15

Turkey

Habertürk, 27.12.12: Çocuk robot! 17

USA

Science World Report, 26.12.12: Most advanced humanoid 'Roboy' to be birthed within 9 months by Swiss engineers 18

CNET, 19.12.12: Swiss aim to birth advanced humanoid in 9 months 19

Canada

Huffington Post, 28.12.12: Why Robots Should Run Our Finances in 2013 20

Russia

Ruformator, 27.12.12: Учёные выпустят нового человекоподобного робота 22

Samara Today, 28.12.12: Учёные выпустят нового человекоподобного робота 23

South Korea

Now News, 28.12.12: 깜찍한 휴머노이드 꼬마 로봇 '로보이' 나온다 24

China

Gigazine, 27.12.12: ヒト型ロボット「Roboy」制作プロジェクト、2013年3月に実機をお披露目 25

Digitec, 22.12.12: 瑞士实验室将推先进人形机器人 售价55000美元 26

Vietnam

Bao Dat Viet, 30.12.2012: Chín tháng thai nghén... cậu bé Roboy 27

India

The Times of India, 29.12.2012: Soon, a roboter helper to do daily chores at home 29

Mexico

Tiempo, 29.12.12: Presentan a "Roboy", robot que ayudará a personas discapacitadas 30

Chile

El Mercurio Online, 27.12.12: Roboy, el "niño robot" que será construido en solamente nueve meses 31

Argentina

Minuto uno, 28.12.12: Diseñan el primer niño robot que es capaz de trabajar 33

National Coverage

SRF



Roboy ist einer der ersten humanoiden Roboter weltweit, der sich bewegen soll wie ein Mensch. Er ist Botschafter der neuesten Erkenntnisse der Robotikforschung. Initiator Rolf Pfeifer vom AI-Lab der Uni Zürich plant, den Roboter in rekordverdächtigen 9 Monaten fertigzustellen.



Bildlegende:

Ein kleiner Roboterjunge erobert die Welt: So soll der humanoide Roboter einmal aussehen. AWTEC AG, ZÜRICH

Auf der Homepage des «Roboy»-Projekt es wird schnell klar: Hier zählt jeder Rappen. Noch fehlen rund 200'000 Franken, um den Roboter fertig zu bauen. Crowdfunding heisst das Zauberwort: Wer möchte, kann sich finanziell an dem Projekt beteiligen. Als Gegenleistung kann man Roboy für Anlässe ausleihen und den Namen oder das Firmenlogo auf der Oberfläche eingravieren lassen. Für 5'000 Franken kommt der Star-Roboter sogar in der Firma vorbei.

Menschliche Roboter

In unserer alternden Gesellschaft sollen Serviceroboter vermehrt in Spitälern, Altersresidenzen, aber auch zuhause eingesetzt werden. Da sie uns dereinst durch den Alltag begleiten könnten, sollen sie uns in Bewegungen, Interaktion und Aussehen so ähnlich wie möglich sein. Damit befassen sich Forscher der «Soft Robots», der weichen Roboter.

Die Zeit drängt. Am 9. März 2013 soll Roboy am Weltkongress «Robots on Tour» in Zürich Robotikfans aus der ganzen Welt präsentiert werden. «Wir sind sehr zuversichtlich und positiv

überrascht, dass trotz der Wirtschaftslage so viele Firmen in Innovation und Technologie investieren», sagt Rolf Pfeifer, seit 25 Jahren Leiter des Labors für Künstliche Intelligenz der Universität Zürich (AI Lab).

Die Proportionen eines Kindes

Seit dem Startschuss im Juni 2012 arbeiten verschiedene Teams aus Industrie und Forschung am Körper Roboys: Kopf, Armen, Beine, Steuerung – der Technologietransfer ist enorm. Der Oberkörper mitsamt den Armen des 130 cm grossen Roboters ist bereits montiert, zurzeit werden die ersten Bewegungen einprogrammiert. Die kindliche Grösse ist laut Projektleiter Adrian Burri bewusst gewählt: «Wir wollen einen sympathischen Roboter bauen».

Sympathisch soll Roboy auch durch seine Bewegungen werden. Er ist ein sogenannter «soft robot», ein Roboter, der sich fast so weich und elegant bewegen soll wie ein Mensch. Bisher werden die meisten Roboter durch Motoren in ihren Gelenken bewegt, was ihnen die typischen steifen Gesten verleiht. Roboys Gelenke jedoch werden über Kunststoffsehnen gesteuert, welche die Knochen des künstlichen Skeletts miteinander verbinden. Elektromotoren ziehen und verkürzen die Sehnen und imitieren so, zusammen mit elastischen Federelementen, die Muskelbewegung im menschlichen Körper. Später wird Roboy auch mit einer künstlichen Haut überzogen werden.

Vorgänger-Roboter «ECCE»



Bildlegende:

An Ecce probierte Roboter-Entwickler Rolf Pfeifer die künstlichen Sehnen erstmals aus. AI LAB UNIVERSITÄT ZÜRICH

Mit dem Vorläufer-Roboter «Ecce» hat Projektinitiator Rolf Pfeifer das Konzept der künstlichen Sehnen über die letzten Jahre erforscht. Die Quintessenz daraus fliesst nun in den Roboy ein. Sein Ziel ist «eines Tages mehrere Roboys zu bauen und an andere Forschungseinrichtungen zu verteilen.

Der Roboy ist der Startschuss für eine längere Forschungsanstrengung in humanoider Robotik», sagt Burri.

Dafür schicken seine Entwickler Roboy als Botschafter in die Welt. Er soll die breite Öffentlichkeit für die Thematik Robotik sensibilisieren und vor allem die vielfältigen Einsatzmöglichkeiten der Robotik aufzeigen. «Open source» ist Teil dieser Öffentlichkeit: Sämtliche Entwicklungsschritte werden laufend im Internet publiziert. Konstruktionsdaten, elektronische und mechanische Komponenten, Steuerungsprogramme sollen nach der «Robots on Tour» publiziert werden. So soll das Know-how weltweit interessierten Personen und Institutionen zugänglich gemacht werden.

Die Projektzeit von 9 Monaten ist sehr ambitiös und Neuland für alle Beteiligten. Es bleibt spannend, ob die Entwicklungszeit für ein Menschenkind auch für den Roboterjungen reicht.

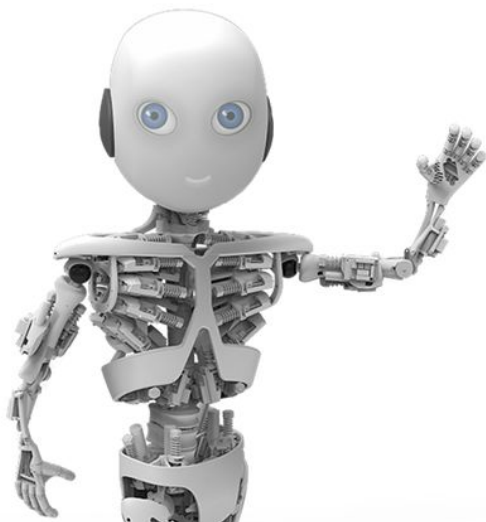
International Coverage

United Kingdom

PHYSORG



Zurich AI team plans March delivery for humanoid Roboy, December 31, 2012 by Nancy Owano



The University of Zurich's Artificial Intelligence Lab is leading the way to the delivery of Roboy, an advanced humanoid, which has a due date for saying Hello World in March. Similar to the Japanese initiative of developing robots that can assist people in daily living, this robot is designed to emulate humans and help out in daily environments. Roboy is the work of engineers at the University of Zurich's Artificial Intelligence Lab, according to design principles developed by Prof. Dr. Rolf Pfeifer, who is the lab director, and assisted by other development partners. The project has involved engineers and scientists. The team members and partners share a commitment toward continued research in "soft robotics." They would like to see Roboy become a blueprint for service robots working with humans, supporting elderly people, for example, to remain in independent living situations, similar to the initiatives of robot research in Japan that are focused on the needs of the aging there. The 1.20m tall Roboy bears a distinguishing feature of having a tendon-driven locomotion system, in that Roboy is built based on tendon-controlled motor technology. In attempting to closely replicate the functions of human tendons, the team has been working on "radical artificial tendons" that can make Roboy move in a human fashion. A tendon is the flexible cord of strong fibrous collagen tissue attaching muscle to bone. Muscles move joints; when a muscle contracts, it pulls on a bone. The tendon structure transmits the force from muscle to the bone for joint movements. The researchers in turn view Roboy in a bigger picture as a potential marker in robotics research. "A robotics platform is being created to investigate and further develop the principles of tendon-driven drive technology in robotics. Regardless of whether the service robots of the future resemble humans or not, the principles applied such as tendon-driven movement will be put to use," according to a Roboy press release. Roboy will be unveiled at the Robots on Tour event in Zurich in March, along

with documentation on its development. The Robots on Tour event carries an ambitious subtitle of "World Congress and Exhibition of Robots, Humanoids, Cyborgs and more." The event is being held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the University of Zurich's AI Lab. The robot is still in construction phase. The timeline for development has involved torso completion, leg development, CAD model of Roboy in its entirety, assembly, and Roboy learning to move. As of mid-December, the team's press release said that Roboy "is getting a new face and can already move his arms." Later in the project Roboy will be covered with "soft skin" to make the robot more comfortable to the touch. Supporting the race to introduce robot in March is the group's financing model. They are attempting to raise funds for producing the Roboy by selling logo space on its body, where names or company logos will be engraved onto the Roboy. In addition to partner support, the AI Lab is turning to crowd-funding.

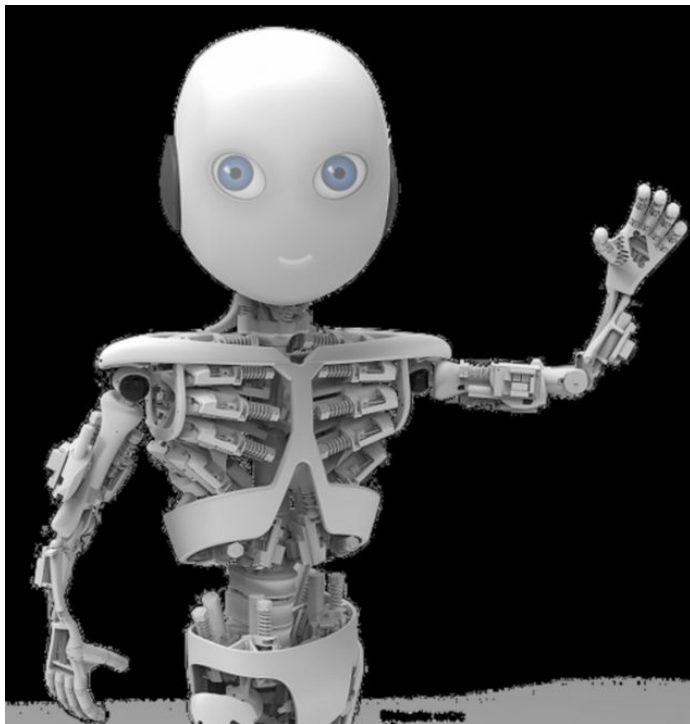
Mail Online

Roboy, the robotic 'boy' set to help humans with everyday tasks (and scientists hope to build him in just nine months)

**1.2m tall humanoid robot designed to help people with everyday tasks
Uses artificial muscles to move, and is covered with a soft skin
Hoped it could lead to helper robots that allow the sick and elderly to retain their independence**

Scientists have revealed an ambitious plan to create a humanoid helper robot with artificial muscles - in just nine months. Engineers at the University of Zurich's Artificial Intelligence Lab hope that 1.2m tall Roboy, designed to look like a child, will eventually help the sick and elderly by acting as a mechanical helper.

To help the robot move, the team are developing radical artificial 'tendons'.



An artist's impression of how Roboy could look. Scientists plan to spend nine months creating him, and hope he could become an automated helper for the sick and elderly

Roboy will have a skeleton similar to a human's and will be operated via special artificial tendons that flex like out own muscles.

The team has already signed up 15 project partners and over 40 engineers, and hope to fund the project using a combination of commercial partners and crowdfunding.

'Financing the project through sponsorship and crowd funding enables us to implement an extremely ambitious project in an academic environment', said Professor Rolf Pfeifer, wh is leading the project. The team hope Roboy will become a blueprint for 'service robots' that work alongside humans.

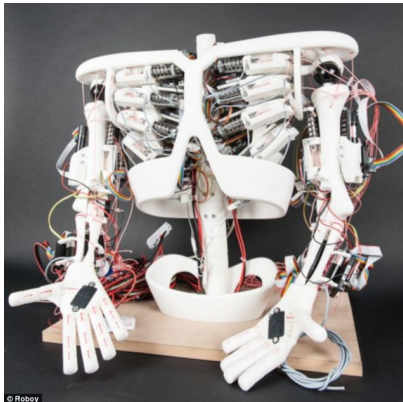
'Service robots are machines that are, to a certain extent, able to execute services independently for the convenience of human beings,' the researchers say.

'Since they share their 'living space' with people, userfriendliness and safety are of great importance'. The project will use artificial tendons.

'Thanks to his construction as a tendon-driven robot modelled on human beings ('normal' robots have their motors in their joints), Roboy moves almost as elegantly as a human,' the team claim.

'Our aging population is making it necessary to keep older people as autonomous as possible for as long as possible, which means caring for aged people is likely to be an important area for the deployment of service robots.

'We can very safely assume that service robots will become part of our environment in the future, as is already the case today for technologies such as smartphones and laptops.'



The team is already developing parts of the Roboy, such as its skeleton like chest which houses spring-like artificial tendons



Work has also begun on Roboy's hands, which will be covered with a soft 'skin' to make it comfortable to the touch

'Creating humanoid robots presents researchers with great challenges,' the researchers say.

'Elements such as quick, smooth movements or robust, flexible yet soft skin are difficult to recreate.

'Fundamental new findings are needed for this purpose.

It is precisely through projects like Roboy that innovation is possible.'

Roboy is expected to be 'born' in March 2013, when it will be unveiled at the Robots on Tour event in Zurich. The lab is seeking donations to fund the work, and is offering to put a logo on the machine for £34,000 (\$55,000).

Our favorite bike for Roboy



© Roboy



Artificial tendons give natural movement to robot boy

By Philippa Warr

The Artificial Lab at the University of Zurich is working on [Roboy](#) -- a robot humanoid boy -- capable of naturalistic movement thanks to a system of tendons.

The project is an extension of the [ECCE robot project](#) led by Owen Holland of the University of Sussex.

ECCE was designed to be anthropomorphic, meaning it sought to mimic not only how human actions look but also how they are performed within the body. Of particular interest to the Roboy team was ECCE's anthropomorphic, tendon-driven arm, ANTHROB which flexes and rotates with a human-like range of movements.

The rapid (and rather symbolic) nine-month development of the 1.2 metre tall Roboy is expected to be complete by early March -- in time for him to attend the Robots on Tour exhibition in Zurich.

"I've already learnt how to wave my hands," reported the team via Roboy's Facebook page. "And my body will be completed by beginning of March 2013."

The research and development of the robot child is being crowdfunded, selling advertising space and other benefits, with the finished robot intended to be entirely open source allowing the wider robotics community to access and advance the technology. Complete documentation for the project is expected to be downloadable from the project website after Roboy is completed.

In the meantime you can already [become his friend on Facebook](#), implying that the "You will not use Facebook if you are under 13" part of the service's terms and conditions may need a rethink in the face of future robotic developments.

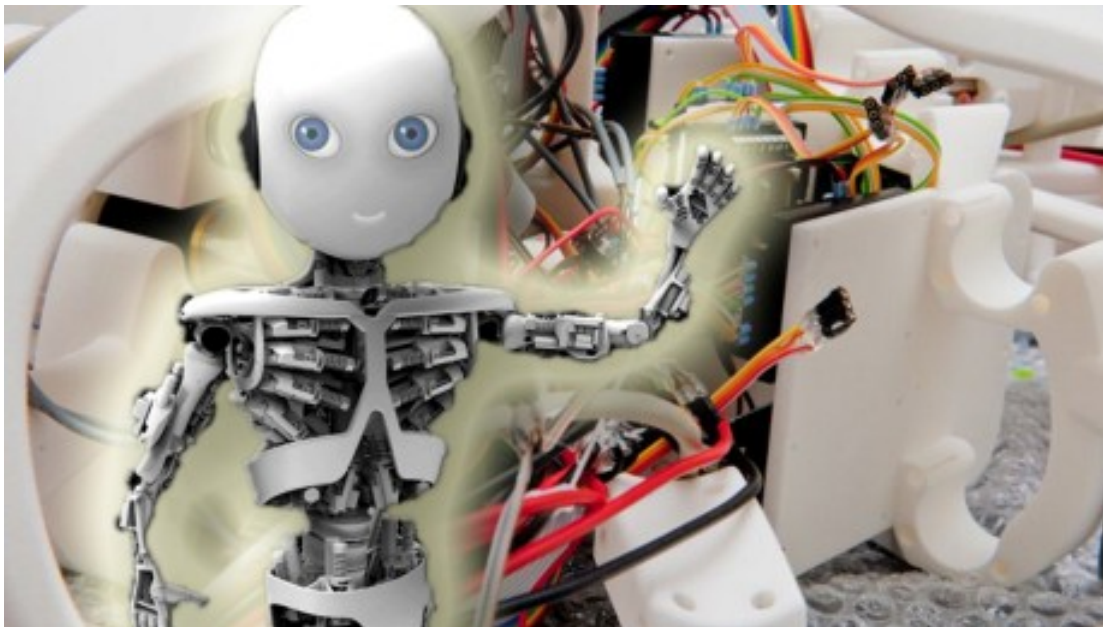
Germany

Berliner Zeitung

B.Z.

Das ist Roboy, Ihre neue Haushaltshilfe

30. Dezember 2012 22:45 Uhr, Thore Schröder
An der Uni Zürich entsteht ein 1,20 Meter großer Roboter-Junge mit einem sehr menschlichen Skelett und Gesicht.



Roboy

Der Roboy hat ein kindliches Gesicht, hinter der Erfindung steckt aber viel intelligente Technik"

Wer hat's erfunden? Schweizer Wissenschaftler lassen Hightech kinderleicht aussehen. Am Artificial Intelligence Lab der Uni Zürich entsteht ein 1,20 Meter großer Roboter. Er könnte alte Menschen pflegen, mit dem Nachwuchs spielen oder im Haushalt zur Hand gehen.

Wir dürfen vorstellen: Roboy!

„Im Mai 2012 haben wir uns entschieden, in nur neun Monaten einen der höchstentwickeltesten Menschenroboter der Welt herzustellen“, sagt Projektleiter Prof. Dr. Rolf Pfeifer. Jetzt geht die Arbeit der 40 Ingenieure auf die Zielgerade, schon im März soll Roboy auf der Internationalen Robotikmesse in seiner Geburtsstadt vorgestellt werden.

Die ersten Fotos verraten: Der Roboter orientiert sich, soweit es geht, am Menschen. Kabel ersetzen Nervenbahnen, mit Sensoren und Kamertechnik kann der Roboter fühlen und sehen. Besonders auffallend ist das Skelett, samt Ellen und Speichen, und der flexible, mit Kunststoffelementen verstärkte Schlauch, der die Wirbelsäule ersetzt. Die Weltneuheit liegt im flexiblen Bewegungsapparat.

Durch künstliche Sehnen soll sich Roboy weniger eckig als andere Roboter bewegen. Die Entwicklung soll insgesamt 414.000 Euro kosten, weitestgehend spenden- und werbefinanziert.

Da die ersten Bilder des künstlichen Jungen wegen seines cyborghaften Aussehens für ängstliche Kommentare sorgten, setzen die Entwickler jetzt voll auf Niedlichkeit und Kinderliebe. Die geringe Körpergröße habe man gewählt, damit der Roboter dem Publikum keine Angst macht, sagt Adrian Burri vom Projektteam. „Es ist eine Gratwanderung: Roboy soll möglichst attraktiv aussehen. Er darf aber auch nicht beängstigend echt wirken“, sagt der Ingenieur. Auf Menschlichkeit setzen die Entwickler auch mit einem Facebook-Profil, das für Roboy eingerichtet wurde. Hier wurde vor Kurzem durch eine Abstimmung sein Gesicht ausgewählt (siehe Fotos links).

Übrigens soll Roboy gleich zu Beginn auch Fahrradfahren lernen. Ob er dafür wohl noch Stützräder braucht?

Sweden

IDG



Robotpojke "föds" på nio månader

[André Stray](#) |

Arbetet med den mest avancerade humanoida roboten håller på för fullt på universitetet i Zurich. Nu kan du vara med och hjälpa till i skapandet av Roboy.

Till skillnad från andra robotar som har motorer i lederna styrs Roboys lemmar med hjälp av senliknande trådar, liksom människor. Det ger Roboy betydligt mjukare och mer mänskliga rörelser. Samma mjukhetsprincip appliceras på Roboys hud. "Huden" kommer att vara av ett mjukt material för att göra Roboy säkrare och mysigare.

Enligt skaparna på Zurich universitet så är Roboy en servicerobot som ska underlätta våra liv genom att utföra enkla uppgifter.

Roboy började byggas i juni i år och enligt planerna ska robotpojken vara klar och visas upp på robotmässan, Robots on Tour, i början på mars 2013.

Projektet finansieras av crowdfunding, så vem som helst kan slänga in en slant för att hjälpa till i byggandet. Beroende på hur mycket du lägger in så kan du få ditt namn eller ditt företags logotyp på någon av Roboys kroppsdelar. Den dyraste platsen är bröstet och kostar över 35000 kronor. Läger du ut 140000 kronor så får du utöver bröstlogotypen möjligheten att vid två evenemang få besök av Roboy och hans skapare.



Roboy, el niño robot que "nacerá" en 9 meses

En junio de 2012 comenzó el proyecto del Laboratorio de Inteligencia Artificial de la Universidad de Zurich, un proyecto para desarrollar un niño robot que debe estar listo para marzo y ser puesto en exposición en Zurich. Son nueve meses los que tardarán en desarrollarlo, el mismo periodo de tiempo que demora en gestar un niño.



Los robots son geniales, son creados para diversas funciones y nos hacen la vida más fácil. Sin embargo, los robots humanoides resultan ser demasiado parecidos a nosotros, por lo que muchas personas no tienen un buen trato o resulta ser incómodo y complicado, ¿no creen? Podríamos decir que Roboy es un proyecto que entra en este espacio de los robots humanoides, es un niño robot. Hablamos de un proyecto del Laboratorio de Inteligencia Artificial de la Universidad de Zurich, que se encuentra desarrollando la máquina y el plazo es de nueve meses, el mismo tiempo que demora en gestar un niño. Por cierto, ya que el proyecto comenzó en junio de 2012, el robot debe estar listo para marzo para ser puesto en exposición en Zurich. En cuanto al equipo que trabaja en el robot, les comento que son más de 40 ingenieros y científicos los que desarrollan Roboy, el robot que funcionará en base a tendones modelados de acuerdo a los seres humanos, para permitirle moverse fluidamente. Además, el equipo espera recaudar dinero de personas o empresas interesadas en tener su nombre sobre el cuerpo de Roboy, por aportes entre US\$26 y US\$55.000. La idea que tienen, es que en el futuro se pueda producir Roboy en masa para que sirva como ayudante para ancianos, discapacitados o para ayudar en las tareas de la casa. Cabe destacar que además de hacer movimientos naturales, Roboy será cubierto de una piel suave para ser más agradable a la interacción con las personas. ¿Qué les parece el pequeño robot?

Italy

WEBNEWS

Roboy, il robot umanoide più avanzato al mondo

Dalla Svizzera giunge un nuovo esempio di robot umanoide in grado di aprire nuovi orizzonti futuri. Trattasi di Roboy, nato presso l'Università di Zurigo.



Davide Falanga

La robotica continua a compiere passi da gigante e con essa anche la speranza da parte dell'uomo di costruire copie meccaniche di sé stesso. L'ultima novità proviene dalla Svizzera, in particolare dall'Università di Zurigo: presso l'AI Lab è stato infatti costruito **Roboy**, uno dei robot umanoidi più avanzati al mondo. Roboy vedrà definitivamente la luce a partire dai primi mesi del 2013, con una presentazione nel corso dell'evento "Robots on Tour" volta ad illustrare la bontà del progetto coordinato dal Prof. Rolf Pfeifer.

La caratteristica principale che distingue Roboy dal resto dei robot umanoidi costruiti fino ad oggi nei laboratori delle università di tutto il mondo è la sua capacità di replicare aspetti fisici degli esseri umani in maniera sorprendente. **Ogni movimento è infatti coordinato da versioni artificiali di tendini, giunti, ossa e muscoli**, permettendo una flessibilità ed una destrezza per certi versi paragonabile a quella degli esseri umani. Roboy, insomma, vuole essere in tutto e per tutto simile ai suoi creatori, copiandone la struttura fisica in ogni aspetto.

Le dimensioni del robot attualmente sono pari a quelle di un bambino di quattro anni, ma il team di ricercatori dell'AI Lab che si stanno occupando del suo sviluppo sperano di poter compiere ulteriori passi in avanti in tal senso. Nel frattempo, il progetto spera di poter raccogliere maggiori fondi per poter proseguire la sua evoluzione, come dimostra la possibilità di effettuare una donazione in cambio di sponsorizzazioni su diverse parti del robot durante le prossime esibizioni.

Roboy, insomma, una volta ultimato potrà essere considerato senza ombra di dubbio uno dei robot umanoidi più avanzati al mondo, grazie all'ottimo lavoro svolto nei laboratori dell'Università di Zurigo. Il suo esordio potrebbe quindi fungere da apripista per l'arrivo di nuovi robot appartenenti a tale categoria,

rendendo la realtà sempre più simile ai film di fantascienza che da lungo tempo influenzano l'immaginario collettivo e lasciano sperare in un futuro in cui robot e uomini possano collaborare uno al fianco dell'altro.

Se vuoi aggiornamenti su Roboy, il robot umanoide più avanzato al mondo inserisci la tua e-mail nel box qui sotto:

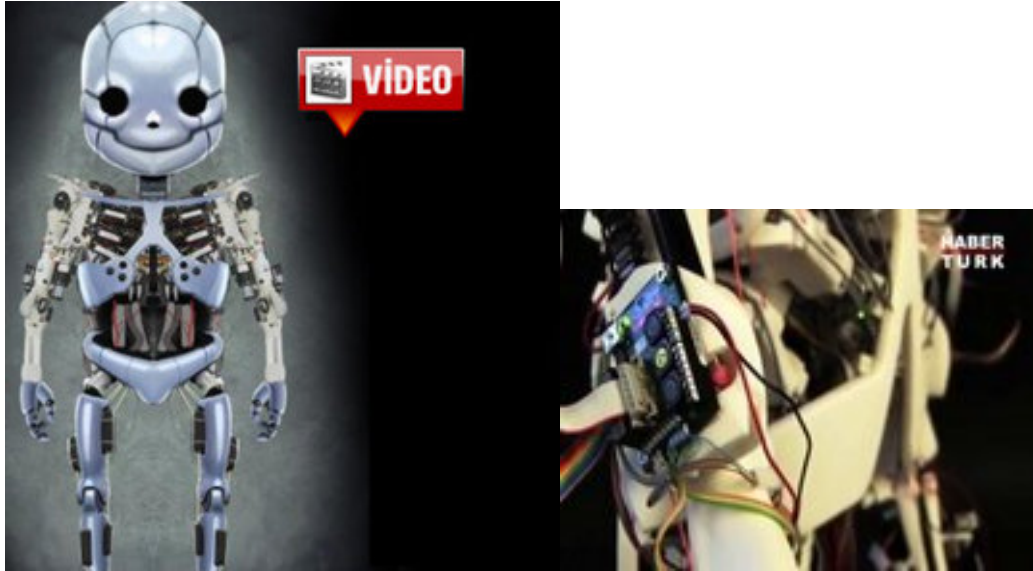
Turkey

Habertürk

HABER
TURK
GÜCÜ ÖZGÜRLÜĞÜNDE

Çocuk robot!

Roboy, tam dokuz ay sonra doğacak!



İnsan kopyası çocuk robot!

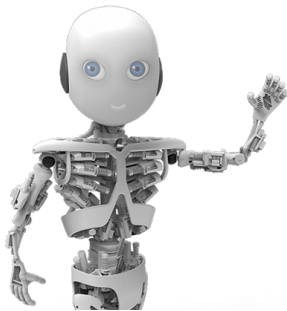
Boyunda sadece 1.2 metre olacak ama bu iyi kalpli çocuk [robot](#) 'Roboy' yaşlılara bile bakabilecek Zürich Üniversitesi'nden bir ekip yapay kaslarıyla insan gibi hareket edebilecek bir çocuk [robot](#) üretmek için için kolları sıvadı. [Roboy](#) isimli [robot](#) sponsorluklarla finanse edilecek ve 2013 yılında yani tam dokuz ay sonra [bilimadamlarının](#) ellerinde doğmuş olacak. **İNSAN GİBİ KASLARINI KULLANACAK** [Roboy](#)'dan önce 2011 yılında Avrupa Birliği destekli bir projede üretilen 'ECCEROBOT' isimli 'insan kopyası' [robotun](#) bir nevi çocuğu olacak. 15 proje partneri ve 40 mühendis [Roboy](#)'u hasta ve bakıma muhtaç yaşlılara yardım amaçlı kullanılması için üretecek. [Roboy](#), eşya taşıyabilecek, bisiklete binebilecek ve üzerindeki kameralar sayesinde bakıma muhtaç kişilerin ailelerinin evdeki durumu internet üzerinden görmelerine bile imkan verecek. Roboy üzerine entegre edilecek olan yüz tanıma [teknolojisi](#) sayesinde de evin güvenliğini sağlayacak

USA

SCIENCE WORLD REPORT

Most advanced humanoid 'Roboy' to be birthed within 9 months by Swiss engineers

Mark Hoffman



Humanoid soft-robot Roboy, developed by the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the University of Zurich.

The new humanoid 'Roboy' will employ a new technology to move as elegantly as humans. He represents a new generation of robots and an innovative research direction for science and industry, according to the developers from the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory of the University of Zurich. After starting about 5 months ago, their goal is to develop one of the most advanced humanoid robots within the record-breaking timeframe of only nine months.

Like Us on Facebook

Their 15 project partners and over 40 engineers and scientists are constructing Roboy as a tendon-driven "soft robot" modelled on human beings. It can therefore move more fluently than "normal" robots which employ motors in their joints, leading to a kind of robot break-dance look.

The development of Roboy is set up as a joint project of research and industry to facilitate technology transfer in the new field of "soft robotics" and support Switzerland's status as a hub of technology. Another interesting element in this project is the crowdfunding aspect, where **everyone can participate**. "Financing the project through sponsorship and crowd funding enables us to implement an extremely ambitious project in an academic environment", said Prof. Rolf Pfeifer, who is heading the University of Zurich's AI Lab since the 25 years of its existence, in a release.

Roboy is being designed with the purpose of a "service robot," meaning it will execute services independently for the convenience of human beings. Since service robots share their "living space" with people, user-friendliness and safety, are priorities in the design process. Additional to natural and smooth movements, Roboy will be covered with "soft skin," in a second step, making interacting with him safer and more pleasant. Roboy will be unveiled at the Robots on Tour March 8 and 9, 2013 in Zurich. You can also **friend Roboy on Facebook**.

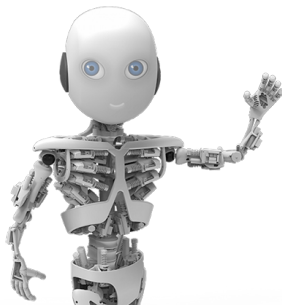


Swiss aim to birth advanced humanoid in 9 months

Roboy is a tendon-driven robot designed to emulate humans, right down to the gestation period.



by Tim Hornyak
Follow @robotopia



Here's a robotics challenge for you: create an advanced humanoid robot in only nine months. That's what engineers at the University of Zurich's Artificial Intelligence Lab are trying to do with [Roboy](#), a kid-style bot that's designed to help people in everyday environments. Researchers around the world are trying to create useful humanoids. One interesting aspect of Roboy is its tendon-driven locomotion system. Like Japan's [Kenshiro](#) humanoid, Roboy relies on artificial muscles to move; in the future, it will be Roboy could become a prototype for service robots that will help elderly people remain independent for as long as possible. It's based on an earlier, one-eyed machine called [Ecce](#), which looks something like a cyclops version of Skeletor. It was designed to be "the first truly anthropomimetic robot." Except the eye, of course. Already well along in its development (check out the video below), Roboy is expected to be born in March 2013, when it will be unveiled at the [Robots on Tour](#) event in Zurich. The lab is seeking donations to fund the work, including branding opportunities. If you have 50,000 Swiss francs (\$55,000) lying around, you can get your logo on Roboy, and strike terror into the hearts of your enemies.

Canada

Huffington Post

THE HUFFINGTON POST



Diane Francis

Editor-at-Large, The National Post

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Why Robots Should Run Our Finances in 2013

Technology marched onward in 2012, but human nature did not. The world's most developed nations continued to squabble over who should -- and how to -- pay their bills this month, even as the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory at the University of Zurich announced that the world's first "humanoid" robot will be "born" in March.

Its baby, called "Roboy", is cute, will have soft skin and is tendon-driven so that it will move as elegantly as a human, not like a machine. Roboy will understand commands and is being developed to perform household chores, surveillance and nursing in hospitals and homes for the elderly.

Even more innovative, Roboy's development is being financed in part by crowdfunding -- online donations from the public -- in return for consideration based on amounts given. A small donation buys a ticket to the Robots on Tour premier in Zurich. A huge donation nets exclusive sponsorship opportunities.

It's an incredible achievement, but overshadowed by the fact that "Roboys" are not yet running our governments, programmed for fiscal responsibility in order to fix our finances.

It's interesting to note that computers can provide instant diagnostics to pinpoint repairs needed on our cars and other machines. But there are no algorithms yet to provide smart, fair and effective political leadership.

Instead, human nature is in charge, and even when people elect leaders the same intractable issues of how to control taxation and spending remain insoluble.

This year, it's the "fiscal cliff" shenanigans in Washington, thanks to the intransigence of competing interests from labour to business, libertarians, environmentalists and the military juggernaut.

The only way to rise above this, for humans, is to indulge in theatrics and make threats in the hopes of driving negotiators to compromise. But that's no longer working, given the complication and number of moving parts in all these countries.

So the U.S. will likely do what the European Union did a year ago and simply kick the can down the road, thus guaranteeing that the Great Markdown of western living standards will proceed more gradually.

This weekend's deadline is a replay. The European players set a series of deadlines, scurried between national capitals, staged last-ditch confabs, leaked pundit predictions of disaster and the press prophesied that Greece, the eurozone and the world as we know it would collapse.

One year later, Europe had stagnated, but not collapsed. Greece was in a depression and Italy, Spain, Britain, Ireland, Portugal and now are too. The eurozone was intact and some corrections were underway. Interestingly, Spain's labour rates had dropped by 40 per cent, compared with those of Germany and France, and two automakers announced major production plants would be built there this year.

In the U.S., the Great Markdown began in 2008 with the collapse of markets, financial institutions, real estate values and employment levels. These conditions have been slightly corrected, but the Americans won't resolve their differences despite their \$6-billion election on these issues.

Both sides have been entrenched since 2010, just like the Europeans. But market forces march ahead and have imposed punishment in the form of lower living standards and higher unemployment levels. And in a few weeks, the political and pundit noise will ebb, countries or currencies won't collapse, and taxes will rise and spending cuts occur, piecemeal.

On a more positive note, the year saw gains. Britain's Olympics was a wonderful distraction and the U.S. election an entertaining, and economically sanguine, reality show. China's Communists peacefully elected a new leader who has begun to crack down on corruption publicly, in the wake of his archrival's uncharacteristically public scandal. Even better, China's "hard landing" did not happen, which would have depressed commodity prices (not good for Canada) as well as world trade.

The Japanese have climbed out of their tsunami and nuclear meltdown in 2011 and the Arab Spring has not brought about catastrophe and has extended to Syria, where the latest dictatorship is toppling. Sanctions against Iran appear to have destroyed its economy and the Stuxnet computer virus has wreaked havoc inside its nuclear reactors. In addition, the eventual collapse of Syria's regime will fully isolate Iran in its neighbourhood.

More good news is that (go figure) the best-performing stock market in the world was Venezuela's, up 300 per cent. This was possibly due to President Hugo Chavez's imminent demise. Turkish and Egyptian markets also performed well.

Another telling sign that 2012 was a pretty good year, gold miners aside, is that gold prices remained stable, thanks to fewer concerns about a collapse of the euro or U.S. dollar.

And Russia's cocky Vlad Putin has had some brakes applied to his czar-ship, thanks to large street protests against him for the first time. He's now reduced to making mischief by banning adoptions of Russian children.

Market bible Barron's brought more good news in its recent forecast issue: "Despite fiscal cliff fears, the U.S. stock market could rise 10 per cent in 2013, say Wall Street's top strategists, betting on a better economy, foreign sales, technology and energy shares." Their consensus was Washington would reach a preliminary agreement in the first few months of 2013 to slow the mandated tax and spending cuts that will automatically begin Jan. 1. Perhaps the most solid, good news of 2012 was that the Mayan prediction that the world would end on Dec. 21 was dead wrong; along with the imminent birth of "Roboy" in March. One guarantees existence and the second will launch a new era with the creation of the world's first user-friendly robot companions and servants.

So as usual, technology advances, irrespective of human nature's inaccuracies and regressions.

In future, a tide of innovations will improve lives but transform work and the economy. It will replace our concerns about politics or taxation or deficits and impose new ones. But like everything else, human nature will kick that can down the road.

Russia

Rufomator



Учёные выпустят нового человекоподобного робота

Через девять месяцев будет разработан гуманоид с принципиально новыми типами движений конечностей.

Как правило, тип гуманоида не лучшее решение для робота, поскольку «нечеловеческие» формы обеспечивают гораздо более качественное выполнение задач. Однако учёные из университета Цюриха создают принципиально новый тип человекоподобного робота Roboy, который будет помогать людям в выполнении повседневных задач. Главной особенностью нового робота является его система движений. Система управления Roboy создана по аналогии с конечностями человека - робот управляется за счет механизированных сухожилий, что избавляет его от традиционных для робота резких прерывистых движений. Помимо этого, робот в ближайшем будущем может быть покрыт «эластичной кожей». Также гуманоид снабжён приятным лицом. Подробности нового Roboy можно увидеть на видео ниже, [сообщает The Verge](#).

Руформатор → Гаджеты → Учёные выпустят нового человекоподобного робота



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South Korea

Now News

나우뉴스

깜찍한 휴머노이드 꼬마 로봇 '로보이' 나온다



마치 애니메이션에 등장하는 '아톰'처럼 귀여운 모습을 한 꼬마 로봇이 개발 중인 것으로 알려져 관심을 끌고 있다. 1.2m 키를 가진 이 휴머노이드 로봇의 이름은 '로보이'(Roboy)로 최근 스위스 취리히 대학 인공지능연구소(Artificial Intelligence Lab)가 몇달 안에 공개하겠다고 발표했다.

귀여운 모습의 이 로봇은 인공 힘줄이 장착돼 실제 사람처럼 움직이는 것이 가능하며 향후 거동이 불편한 노인과 환자를 돕는 역할을 하게될 것으로 알려졌다.

연구를 이끌고 있는 로프 파이퍼 교수는 "40명의 엔지니어들이 이번 프로젝트에 참여하고 있다."면서 "로보이는 인간 곁에서 봉사하는 로봇의 청사진이 될 것"이라고 밝혔다.

이어 "노령화가 급속히 진행되고 있는 사회에서 이같은 로봇은 마치 스마트폰 처럼 미래에 없어서는 안될 기계가 될 것"이라고 내다봤다.

현재 연구팀은 인간처럼 빠르고 부드럽게 걸을 수 있게 해주는 인공 힘줄과 부드러운 피부 개발에 전념 중이다.

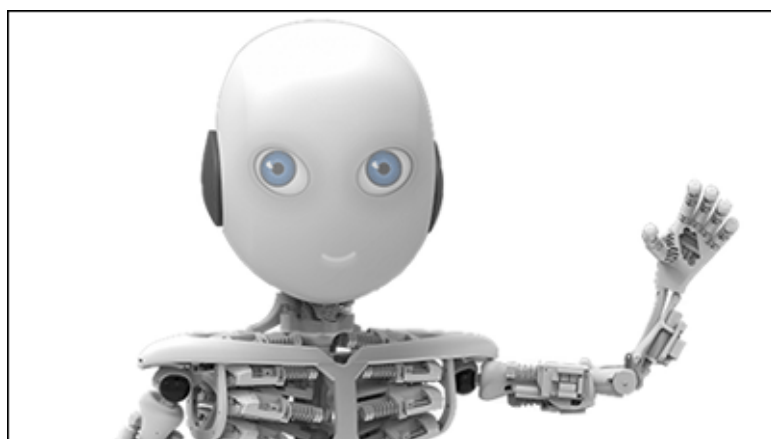
파이퍼 교수는 "내년 3월 로보이가 처음으로 언론에 공개될 것"이라며 "보다 진전된 로봇 개발을 위해 자금을 모집 중"이라고 말했다.

China

Gigazine

2012年12月27日 13時00分37秒

ヒト型ロボット「Roboy」制作プロジェクト、2013年3月に実機をお披露目



東京大学情報システム工学研究室で人間の骨格や筋肉を再現したヒューマノイド「**臙志郎**」が開発されていますが、同じように臙を再現することで人間と同じような動きが可能なヒト型ロボット「Roboy」がチューリッヒ大学人工知能研究室で開発されています。こちらは2013年3月にお披露目をする予定で、9ヶ月という短期間での建造プロジェクトが現在進行形で動いており、実現に向けてクラウドファ<http://www.robey.org/>



ンディングによる出資を募っています。 **Roboy**

実際のROBOY制作現場はこんな感じ。

手をゆっくりと握りしめる動作この部分にロゴが入るそうです。プロジェクトには15人の仲間と、40人以上の技術者、科学者が協力しています。将来的にRoboyは、映画「**Robot&Frank**」(日本未公開)に出てきたロボットのように、人を助けるためのサービスロボットになる予定。サービスロボットは人々と生活空間を共有することになるので、ユーザーフレンドリーさと安全性がなによりも重要になってくるため、とにかく「ソフト」であるように心がけているそうです。2012年7月に制作がスタート、2013年3月に「**Robots on Tour**」というイベントでお披露目を行う予定という9ヶ月突貫プロジェクトで、その開発速度を維持するために、クラウドファンディングによって50万スイスフラン(約4700万円)の調達を目指しています。ファンで得られるものは以下のような感じです。

Digitec



瑞士实验室将推先进人形机器人 售价55000美元

腾讯数码讯（韦伶俐）12月21日消息，在短短的9个月内创造一个先进的人形机器人？这绝对是机器人研究界的一大挑战。

以上说的是苏黎世大学人工智能实验室的工程师正努力完成的项目，他们研制的机器人ROBOY，是一个机器人小孩，希望能在平日的生活中为人们提供帮助。

世界各地的研究人员都在试图创造能服务于人类的类人形机器人，ROBOY一个有意思的方面就是他的肌腱驱动系统。像日本的Kenshiro一样，Roboy依赖于人工肌肉活动，在将来，它还会被覆盖上柔软的皮肤。Roboy可能成为服务类机器人的原型机，他的问世将有助于老年人独立生活。

ROBOY是在前辈，一个早期设计出来名叫Ecce的独眼机器人的基础上发展而来，尽管Ecce看起来像一个骷髅版本的独眼巨人，但当时它被设计成是“第一个真正拟人机器人。”当然，它的眼睛以外。

在其被研制过程中，ROBOY已经能很好地与人交往了（看看下面的视频就知道了），它将于2013年5月左右在苏黎世 Robots on Tour上亮相，该实验室正在筹款以支持科研工作，同时也在努力寻找品牌商机。

如果你身边正好有50000瑞士法郎（约合55000美元），那你就能把你的LOGO印在ROBOY上，吓唬一下你的对手们！

Vietnam

Bao Dat Viet



Chín tháng thai nghén... cậu bé Roboy

(ĐVO)- Các nhà khoa học tại Phòng Thí nghiệm Trí óc Nhân tạo (AI Lab) thuộc trường Đại học Zurich đang ấp ủ kế hoạch chế tạo một chú Rôbốt có vóc dáng tương đương với một cậu bé biết đi.

Chú rôbốt mang tên Roboy này được khẳng định là sẽ thân thiện và đáng yêu hơn bất cứ một mẫu rôbốt nào trước đó. Nắm bắt được tâm lý của người dùng không muốn có một chú rôbốt toàn sắt thép đi lại trong nhà, các nhà khoa học của AI Lab đã sử dụng công nghệ "rôbốt mềm" để chế tạo Roboy. Công nghệ này sẽ mô phỏng cơ thể con người và "đắp" vào thân hình cao 1,2 mét của "cậu bé" Roboy này. Với công nghệ này, AI Lab cho rằng chủ nhân của Roboy sẽ rất thoải mái trong giao tiếp hàng ngày cùng chú rôbốt này.

Tuy vậy, ở thời điểm hiện tại, các mô hình thiết kế cho thấy, Roboy không hoàn toàn đã có dáng vẻ đáng yêu. Thực tế, người ta có thể cảm nhận dáng vẻ của Roboy giống như một nhân vật nửa người nửa máy hay xuất hiện trong các bộ phim viễn tưởng, chứ không hẳn là một cậu bé kháu khỉnh. song, quá trình chế tạo chú người máy này vẫn đang được tiếp tục và các nhà thiết kế chắc chắn sẽ có những thay đổi phù hợp để cậu bé Roboy trở nên đáng yêu hơn.

Một điều khá thú vị là thời gian để hoàn thành chế tạo cậu bé Roboy này sẽ là chín tháng, tương đương với thời gian thai nghén của một bà mẹ để mong chờ cho ra đời một cậu bé đáng yêu.

Các công đoạn chế tạo Roboy được bắt đầu từ hồi tháng Sáu vừa qua với 15 thành viên dự án cùng 40 kỹ sư và nhà khoa học.

Những thành viên này góp công sức cả về chuyên môn khoa học cũng như gây dựng quỹ thông qua tài trợ và bán đấu giá các vị trí đặt logo trên mình cậu bé Roboy

Thực tế, Roboy được chế tạo dựa trên nền một dự án trước đó của AI Lab với sản phẩm là một người máy hung dữ mang tên Eccerobot.

Với chủ yếu chất liệu nhựa dẻo, Roboy được chế tạo mô phỏng hệ thống cơ người với độ thẩm mỹ cao. Thay vì sử dụng mô tơ chuyển động ở các khớp nối, Roboy sử dụng các mô-tơ tổng hợp kéo các dây cáp cao su, do vậy hệ thống này hoạt động theo cách tương tự như hệ thống cơ và dây chằng của con người.

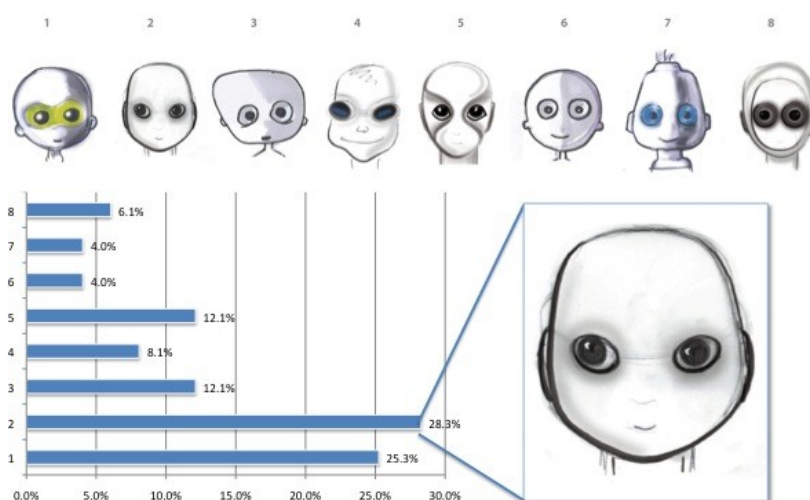
AI Lab khẳng định hệ thống này sẽ giúp Roboy chuyển động gần giống với con người nhất so với tất cả các thế hệ rôbốt hiện nay.

Trong thời gian tới, các nhà khoa học của dự án này sẽ nghiên cứu phát triển các công nghệ mới cho hệ thống "mắt" nhìn của Roboy, theo đó sẽ sử dụng công nghệ 3D.

Mục đích của dự án Roboy là nhằm tăng cường sự chấp thuận đối với các dịch vụ có sử dụng rôbốt bằng cách tăng thêm sự thân thiện của các chú rôbốt khi có mặt ở xung quanh con người.

Hiện, Roboy đang trong quá trình được lựa chọn khôn mặt thông qua một cuộc "trung cầu dân ý" trên mạng xã hội Facebook.

Facebook-Voting



"Trung cầu dân ý" lựa chọn khuôn mặt cho Roboy

Về công đoạn chế tạo, Roboy hiện đã có thể cử động các cánh tay của mình và sẽ sớm được phủ lên một lớp da mềm. Dự kiến, Roboy sẽ lần đầu tiên xuất hiện trước "công chúng" trong cuộc triển lãm mang tên "Robots on Tour" vào ngày 9/3/2013 nhân dịp kỷ niệm 25 năm ngày thành lập AI Lab./.

India

The Times of India

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Soon, a robot helper to do daily chores at home

PTI

Scientists are designing a new ambitious robotic humanoid helper with artificial muscles to help people with everyday tasks.

Engineers at the University of Zurich's Artificial Intelligence Lab hope that 1.2 metre tall Roboy, designed to look like a child, will help the sick and elderly by acting as a mechanical helper. The research team is developing radical artificial 'tendons' to help the robot move, the 'Daily Mail' reported.

They have already signed up 15 project partners and over 40 engineers, and hope to fund the project using a combination of commercial partners and crowd-funding. Researchers hope Roboy will become a blueprint for 'service robots' that work alongside humans.

"Service robots are machines that are, to a certain extent, able to execute services independently for the convenience of human beings. Since they share their 'living space' with people, user-friendliness and safety are of great importance," researchers said. The project will use artificial tendons to develop Roboy within nine months.

Roboy will be unveiled in March 2013 at the Robots on Tour event in [Zurich](#).

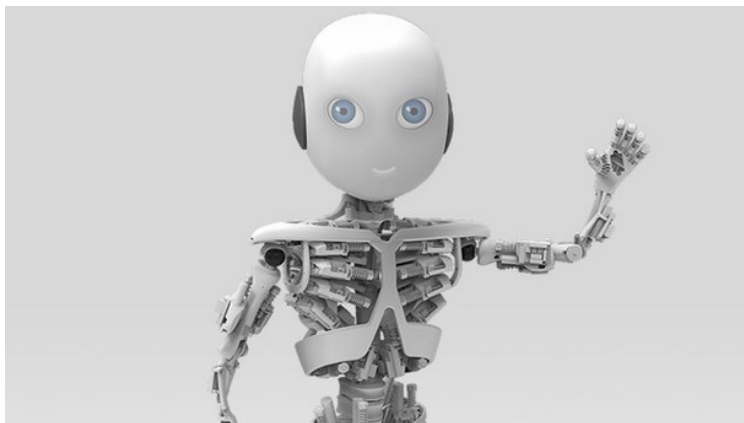
Mexico

Tiempo



Presentan a "Roboy", robot que ayudará a personas discapacitadas

Hoy en la red se puede apreciar la noticia acerca de la presentación que la Universidad Artificial de de Zurich Alemania hizo de su "Roboy", robot que se asemeja en todo a los niños del mundo.



Según los investigadores este robot funcionará a través de tendones mecánicos, que en los humanos serían los músculos que a este permitirán moverse de manera muy natural.

Aparte estas personas mencionaron que el tiempo que programaron para tenerlo listo fue de 9 meses por lo que para el próximo mes de marzo deberían mostrarlo completo, ya que iniciaron el proyecto desde el mes de junio, pero fue hasta este mes que se hizo oficial y se dio a conocer.

El equipo que trabaja para "Roboy" lo conforman 40 ingenieros y científicos, pero según declaraciones podría no estar listo para la fecha acordada, ya que los recursos que se tenían no fueron suficientes. Es por esto que se dieron a la tarea de recolectar fondos.

Los investigadores dijeron que el objetivo principal de este robot es que sean útiles para personas con alguna discapacidad.

Chile

El Mercurio

emol.

Roboy, el "niño robot" que será construido en solamente nueve meses

El proyecto, que comenzó en junio de este año, cuenta con piel y tendones que asemejan el movimiento humano. Se espera que su lanzamiento sea entre el 8 y el 9 de marzo.

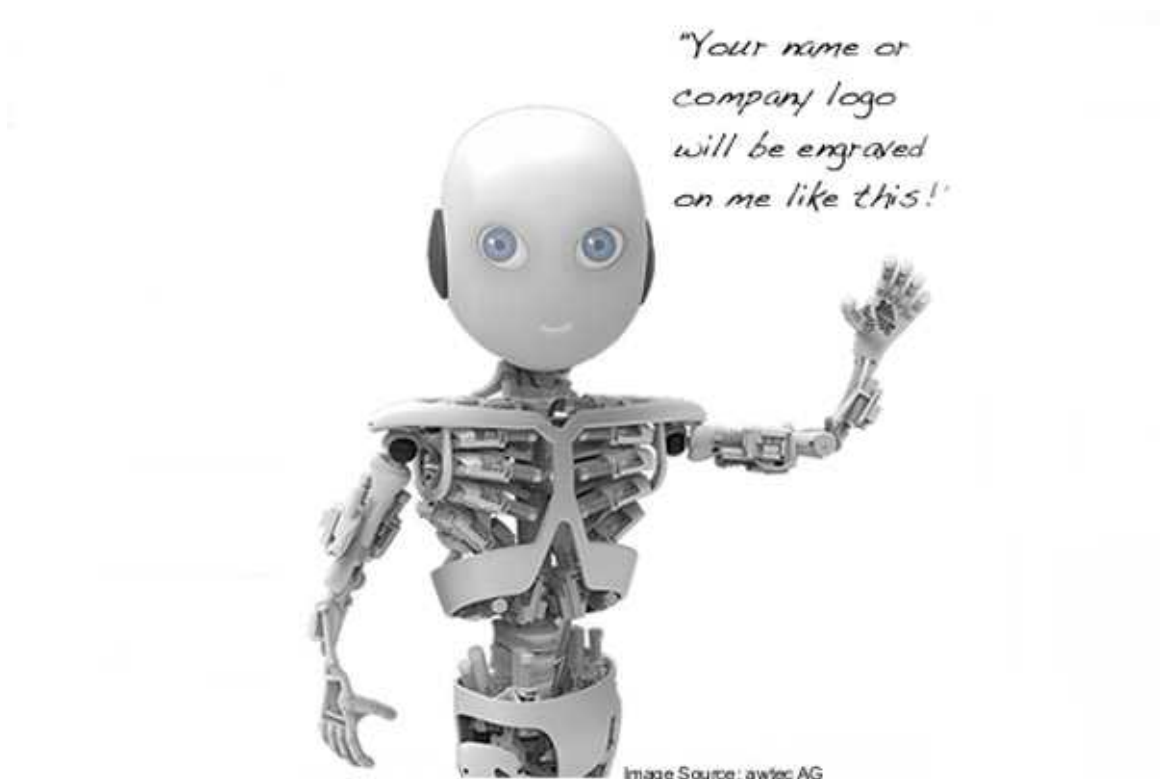


Foto: awtec AG

ZURICH.- La creación de robots humanoides ha sido el proyecto de muchos durante los últimos años, sin embargo la próxima creación de este tipo podría llamar la atención no solo de la comunidad científica. Según han revelado un grupo de investigadores del Laboratorio de Inteligencia Artificial de la Universidad de Zurich, una de las siguientes máquinas de este tipo llevará el nombre de [Roboy](#) y será nada más ni nada menos que un "niño robot".

Este proyecto está compuesto por 15 compañías y más de 40 expertos y busca crear un objeto que logre asemejar la figura humana, con piel y tendones que no sólo se vean similares sino que además consigan un movimiento parecido.

La creación de Roby, al igual que la gestación humana, tendrá una duración de 9 meses. Dado que el proyecto comenzó a desarrollarse en junio de este año, se espera que la llegada de este "niño robot" sea durante el mes de marzo.

Dentro de las funciones de esta máquina se espera que pueda ayudar con las tareas de la casa, realizar vigilancia y limpieza. Sus creadores creen que también podría ser útil en la ayuda de ancianos y discapacitados, según las necesidades que presenten.

Los creadores de Roboy se encuentran actualmente en una campaña para recolectar fondos, vendiendo espacio y logos dentro del cuerpo del robot desde los 27 hasta los 55 mil dólares. Se espera que en algún futuro cercano, posterior a su presentación el 8 y 9 de marzo, este prototipo pueda pasar a la venta masiva y así ser útil en diferentes áreas de la vida humana.

Argentina

Minuto uno

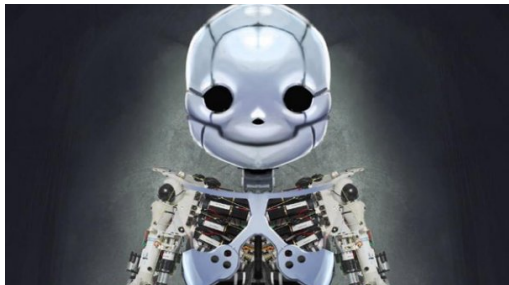
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Diseñan el primer niño robot que es capaz de trabajar

Científicos suizos crearon a "Roboy", el niño robot capaz de cumplir con los quehaceres del hogar gracias a sus "tendones" de metal.

Un grupo de científicos de la Universidad de Zúrich, en Suiza, inició una campaña agresiva para recaudar fondos para fabricar a **Roboy**, el primer niño robot. Se trata de una criatura de 1,20 de altura que podrá realizar toda clase de trabajos gracias a sus "tendones" artificiales.

Como si se tratase de un personaje salido de la mente de Isaac Asimov, el autor de "Yo, robot", los científicos de la Universidad de Zúrich presentaron a Roboy, que fue señalado como el aparato capaz de dejar obsoleto a los seres humanos, según **TechHive**.



El objetivo de Roboy será asistir a ancianos y enfermos con la calidez de su apariencia de niño inocente de ojos azules y su sonrisa metálica. "Al financiar el proyecto a través de sponsors y recaudando fondos del público podemos implementar un proyecto ambicioso en un ambiente académico", explicó el jefe del equipo, el profesor Rolf Pfeifer.

"Los robots de servicio son hasta cierto punto capaces de ejecutar un servicio de manera independiente para beneficio de los seres humanos", explicó Pfeifer, cuyo equipo de más de 40 ingenieros desarrolló el primer mecanismo de tendones mecánicos similares a los naturales, lo que permitirá un movimiento más orgánico al aparato.