

Press release
ROBOSOFT

The first RobuRIDE³⁰ rolls out of the factory for the Rome Exhibition Center's autonomous passenger transportation system

Bidart, January 23, 2009: On Jan. 22 and 23, ROBOSOFT hosts in Bidart some 30 European experts from the CityMobil and CityNetMobil projects for a series of technical meetings on autonomous passenger transportation systems. On that occasion, ROBOSOFT will unveil its robuRIDE³⁰ autonomous passenger transportation vehicle prototype, aiming at equipping the parking area of Rome Exhibition Center (Fiera Di Roma), one of the CityMobil demonstration projects.

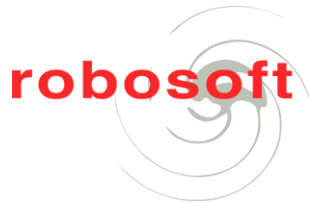
The robuRIDE is already in operation at Vulcania Park and at Simserhof Fort in France. This new version is faster (up to 25 km/h rather than 10), larger (more than 30 passengers), and more modular in terms of bodywork and fittings, providing better adaptability to specific client needs.

This increased performance is largely due to real-time extensions added to the robuBOX.

CityMobil is a research and development project dealing with autonomous passenger transportation and is partly financed by the European Commission (6th framework program for European research and development). Specifically, three demonstrations of these new technologies are to be built, in Spain (Castellón), in England (Heathrow Airport), and in Italy (Rome Exhibition Center). These demonstrations will permit full-scale evaluation of new technologies for autonomous transportation, as well as developing Europe-wide rules of certification for these new types of transport.

The CityNetMobil project is another European project (7th framework program for European research and development). The goal of this project is to help cities considering the new possibilities offered by autonomous transportation. It is open to all European cities interested in the short-, medium-, or long-term by the new autonomous transportation technologies within their programs for the development of their urban structures and transportation networks. The project thus provides support in the form of expertise, demonstrations, and conferences.

ROBOSOFT, supplier of advanced robotics solutions and partner in the CityMobil project, was selected to supply autonomous vehicles to Rome Exhibition Center for a major program of testing, validation, and certification. These autonomous vehicles will transport visitors between the parking areas and the Exhibition Center entrance.



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About ROBOSOFT

ROBOSOFT is the European leader in service robot solutions. With over 20 years of scientific and industrial expertise in this domain, ROBOSOFT has been supplying advanced robotics solutions in the transportation, security, cleaning, supervision, health and research industries since 1985.

Beyond professional applications, the era of personal robotics is approaching fast. ROBOSOFT believes that its service robots, called "roboters", will be part of everyday life within the next five years. According to the Japan Robotics Association's predictions, the world market for service and personal robotics will reach 17 billion dollars by 2010. Roboters will make everybody's life easier in activities such as entertainment, education, culture, health, support for the elderly and the handicapped, etc. In order to make these applications a reality, ROBOSOFT already integrates 80% of programming complexity into its robuBOX, a module programmed using Microsoft Robotics Developer Studio (<http://www.microsoft.com/robotics>). robuBOX is already incorporated into the heart of ROBOSOFT robots, but can also be licensed to robotics integrators and manufacturers for mass production.

See: <http://www.robosoft.com>

Contact: vincent.dupourque@robosoft.com

About CityMobil

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See: <http://www.citymobil-project.eu/>

Contact: jan.vandijke@tno.nl

About CityNetMobil

The CityNetMobil project is an offshoot of the CityMobil project and is another European project (7th framework program for European research and development). The goal of this project is to help cities considering the new possibilities offered by autonomous transportation by providing support in the form of expertise, demonstrations, and conferences.

See: <http://www-c.inria.fr/citynetmobil>

Contact: paolo.crisi@ctl.uniroma1.it