



**ROBOSOFT chose .NET Microsoft technologies  
to develop its robuBOX™ advanced robotic core**

*The partnership is carried out within the Microsoft FRANCE IDEES program  
sponsoring innovative companies*

**Bidart, 2006 March 29<sup>th</sup>** : ROBOSOFT, the European service robotics leader, has chosen Microsoft technologies to develop its robuBOX™, a concept integrating more than 80% of the complexity of intelligent service robots.

Robosoft's goal is to "democratize" and disseminate service robots as computers have been in the 1980's. In its robuBOX™ concept, ROBOSOFT is taking another step towards the popularization of service robotics; it therefore chose Microsoft technologies to attract the widest possible audience. This partnership, which includes technological, marketing and commercial sides, is part of the IDEES program (Initiative for the Economic Development of the Software publishers and Start-up) of Microsoft.

*"We chose Microsoft technologies because they allow us the best possible use of our software developments for embedded equipment as well as for supervision systems" says Vincent Dupourqué, President of ROBOSOFT. "Our permanent challenge is to make each piece of the robot smaller, lighter and cheaper while preserving the same computing power and state-of-the-art communication and man-machine interface features".*

Thus, the core robuBOX™ technology could be equally used in automatic transportation robots for amusement parks, airports and downtown areas, or in assistance robots for the elderly or people with handicaps. Another advantage is that every robot permanently leverages all connectivity advances of micro computing; innovative applications such as ordering an automatic shuttle from a mobile phone can become a short-term reality.

*"We are very interested in the ROBOSOFT design approach", says M. Julien Codorniou, in charge of the IDEES program at Microsoft France. "This approach is in line with our efforts to provide development environments ensuring full portability of applications across a wide panel of hardware targets. We are thus happy to sponsor ROBOSOFT within the framework of our IDEES program".*

The first robots integrating the robuBOX™ core based on Microsoft technologies will be available by the end of 2006.



### **About ROBOSOFT**

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ROBOSOFT is one of the worldwide leaders in service robotic solutions. Thanks to its high-level skills in a variety of scientific and technical fields, ROBOSOFT has since 1985 developed and supplied advanced mobile robotic solutions for Transportation, cleaning, security, health and research applications.

ROBOSOFT clients include operators of large buildings and sites open to the public (hospitals, airports, museums, shopping centers, train/bus stations, campuses, amusement and other parks), service providers (urban transportation entities, cleaning companies, security services) and public and private research laboratories. More on [www.robosoft.fr](http://www.robosoft.fr)

### **About Microsoft**

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Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq "MSFT") is the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential. More on [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com)

### **About Microsoft EMEA (Europe, Middle East and Africa)**

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Microsoft has operated in EMEA since 1982. In the region Microsoft employs more than 12,000 people in over 55 subsidiaries, delivering products and services in more than 139 countries and territories.

### **About IDEES**

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In October 2005, Microsoft France has introduced IDEES, an initiative aimed at helping emerging and start-up software companies in France to develop and grow. IDEES relies on partnerships cultivated with venture capital companies, as well as sponsorship for innovative start-ups in the software field as a means of providing direct technical, commercial and marketing support.

To date, the program includes 13 start-up : Aliantiz, Apach Network, Boonty, Excentive, Lexifi, Prim'X Technologies, Reportive, Robosoft, Sorce, Sinequa, Skyrecon, Total Immersion and Voluntis.

This effort for supporting innovation and development in France's software sector is part of an international program that began in the Silicon Valley five years ago with the creation of a dedicated group called the EBT (Emerging Business Team). Today, the EBT has grown to 60 people. This initiative is part of Microsoft's commitment to France's digital economy and expands upon a program that is already under way in the fields of technological industry and research in France.

### **Contacts**

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