



NASA Space Telerobotics Program

Cool Robot Of The Week

The honor of being listed as "Cool Robot Of The Week" is bestowed upon those robotics-related web sites which portray highly innovative solutions to robotics problems, describe unique approaches to implementing robotics system, or present exciting interfaces for the dissemination of robotics-related information or promoting robotics technology. This award carries absolutely no monetary value, official recognition, assumed support, or tangible benefit, other than swamping your web site with a few dozen extra hits for a week. But everyone else was putting up their "Cool Site Of The Millenia" lists, so we figured it was our turn too...

This week's selection:

Set 04 [Golem Project](#) - an "artificial life" project from [Brandeis University DEMO lab](#) studying the automatic design and manufacture of robotic lifeforms (see the [Washington Post article here](#)).

Previous Cool

Aug 28 [RoboCup 2000](#) - Fourth Robot World Cup Soccer Games and Conferences, taking place this week in Melbourne (see the [current scores here](#)).

Aug 21 [Autosub](#) - a UK project to develop unmanned autonomous underwater vehicles technology for advanced marine science.

Aug 14 [M2000](#) - paint-stripping robot for cleaning super tankers, a development of the [National Robotics Engineering Consortium](#).

Aug 07 [Many-Robot Systems](#) - description of an [ONR Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center](#) project conducted between 1992 and 1995 to investigate some of the system-level issues associated with multi-agent systems.

Jul 31 [Jijo-II](#) - office conversant mobile robot.

Jul 24 [Gastronome](#) - a prototype meat-eating robot, part of the University of South Florida [Gastrobotics Project](#). And you thought the [Slugbot](#) was bad!

Jul 17 [Lorpex](#) - prototype planetary exploration robot that combines robotics technology with In-Situ Resource Utilization (ISRU), from the University of Arizona [Space Engineering Research Center](#).

-  Jul 10 [NavChair](#) - an assistive navigation system for wheelchairs based upon mobile robot obstacle avoidance, developed at the University of Michigan [Mobile Robotics Lab](#) (also check out the follow-on work known as [GuideCane](#)).
-  Jul 03 [K-9](#) - Mars rover prototype and field test program to integrate and demonstrate robotic technologies for future Mars missions.
-  Jun 26 [Robonaut](#) - robotic astronaut surrogate for space operations, under development by the NASA Johnson Space Center (see the Robonaut stories on [Yahoo!](#) and [CNN](#)).
-  Jun 19 [Half Fish, Half Robot](#) - story from [New Scientist Magazine](#), reporting on the first animal-robot hybrid.
-  Jun 12 [Miller's SnakeBots](#) - describes several generations of snakebot research by Dr. Gavin Miller, who is collaborating with the [NASA Ames Serpentine Robotics Project](#).
-  Jun 05 [BEAM Millenium Robot Games 2000](#) - This year, WCRG joins forces with the world-established BEAM International Robot Games, to make this year's event truly world-class
-  May 29 [RoboCup-Euro 2000](#) - First RoboCup European Championship and Conference, RoboCup-Euro 2000 Amsterdam (see an [overview of the rules and set-up here](#)).
-  May 22 [Snakebot](#) - hyper-redundant, serpentine robots composed of simple low degree of freedom modules , under evaluation for possible space applications.
-  May 15 [Evolution of Machines](#) - polymorphic robot concepts have been around for a while, but this project at Brandeis University is one of the first efforts to progress from pure simulation to physical implementation (check out the related [article from New Scientist](#)).
-  May 08 [LePot](#) - a giant robotic flower pot that autonomously drives around on a Swiss administration building roof top (check out the [24-hour time lapse video](#)).
-  May 01 [SpaceCat](#) - a stepping triple-wheel robot for potential planetary exploration, part of the [ROSA Project](#) at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne [Autonomous Systems Lab](#).
-  Apr 24 [RoboRama 2000](#) - description of the annual robotics competition hosted by the [Dallas Personal Robotics Group](#), along with the [results page](#)
-  Apr 17 [SUBMAR](#) - societies of underwater robots for internal monitoring and control, from the Helsinki University of Technology [Automation Technology Laboratory](#).
-  Apr 10 [Foothill High School and NASA Ames Research Center](#) & Vintage High School and NASA Ames Research Center and NAPA Pipe & [Briston Meyers Squibb North Brunswick Township High School](#) - winners of the National Championships, and [Mountain Home High School and Baxter Healthcare Corporation](#) - winners of the Chairman's Award, at the 2000 [FIRST Robotics Competition](#) held last weekend in Orlando.
-  Apr 03 [Salamander](#) - "the robotic sludge crawler project" - with a name like that, we just couldn't resist!

- Mar 27  [SNUF](#) - simple autonomous mobile robot constructed of second-hand components - includes a complete description of the utilized architecture and downloadable code.
- Mar 20  [Robotics Webring](#) - A web ring established as a simple way to find robotics and electrical engineering content on the web.
- Mar 13  [RobOnWeb](#) - A project at the [Autonomous Systems Lab](#) of the [Swiss Federal Institut of Technology in Lausanne](#) (Switzerland) which aims to develop new concepts for teleoperation of mobile robots through the World Wide Web.
- Mar 06  [Robotics Education Project](#) - NASA-sponsored efforts to develop K-12 curricula in robotics education.
- Feb 28  [Robot Pike](#) - An MIT project to build a robotic fish, to understand the complex fluid mechanics that fish use to propel themselves.
- Feb 21  [PETS](#) - from the Univeristy of Maryland [Autonomous Mobile Robotics Lab](#), the Personal Electronic Teller of Stories may be the future of household robotics - where the user builds the robot to suit their mood (or task), rather than selecting a pre-defined robotic solution for the task at hand.
- Feb 14  [Thing](#) - from the Univeristy of Massachusetts [Laboratory for Perceptual Robotics](#), it's a four-legged walker, it's a robotic hand, it's a globe-twirler... (it's a floor polish, it's a desert topping.... [SNL fans will get that one])
- Feb 07  [RCX Internals](#) - a very detailed description of the [Lego Mindstorms](#) RCX controller, which provides a great start for experiemnting with modifications/extensions to the RCX hardware and software.
- Jan 31  [MVACS RA](#) - the [Mars Polar Lander \(MPL\)](#) may have disappeared when it reached Mars, but the flight spare robotic arm developed for MPL is still being run through it's paces in tests recently conducted in Death Valley.
- Jan 24  [Troody](#) - a fully contained 3D bipedal walking dinosaur robot, from the [MIT Leg Lab](#).
- Jan 17  [CRIP](#) - collective robotics intelligence project from the University of Alberta [Computer Vision and Robotics Research Group](#).
- Jan 10  [Nomad](#) - robotic search for Antarctic meteorites, deployed this week to Elephant Moraine for the 2000 field test - see additional [info and daily reports here](#) along with the [New York Times story](#). **** 01/23/2000 Update **** [Nomad found a meteorite!](#)
- Jan 03  [Mind control of robots](#) - a demonstration of direct control of a robot manipulator from a rat's brain (draw your own analogies regarding robot control from a grad students' brain).

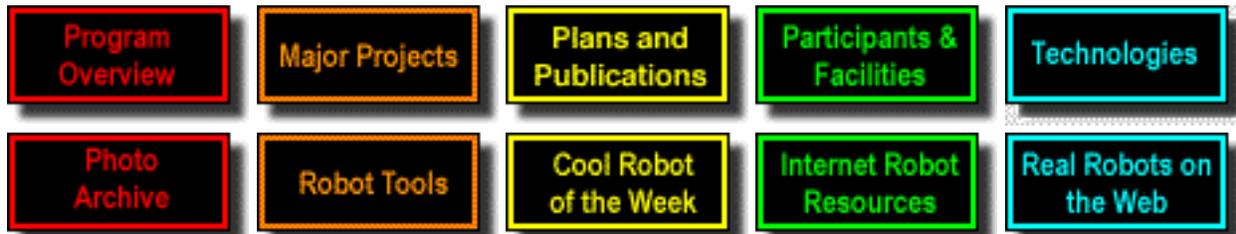
Note:  indicates the organization is developing technologies for space applications of robotics

 [Check out the 1999 cool...](#)

 [Check out the 1998 cool...](#)

 [Check out the 1997 cool...](#)

 [Check out the 1996 cool...](#)



[Telerobotics Program page](#)

Please [email the site webmaster](#)  with any comments, criticisms or corrections for this page.

Maintained by: [Dave Lavery](#)

Last updated: September 04, 2000