



ROBOSOFT raises €1.5M to launch the robuBOX™ in transports, cleanliness, security and healthcare industries

Bidart, 2006 January 23rd: ROBOSOFT, the service robotics European leader, announces a €1.5M fund raising from ACE Management to market the robuBOX™, thus opening the industrial era of service robotics.

To face the emerging needs of an ageing society asking for more and more specialized services, robotics innovations are among the safest, cheapest and most efficient answers.+6 With the robuBOX™ concept integrating more than 80% of the complexity of intelligent service robots, ROBOSOFT yet makes possible the production of service robots at industrial cost and quality. A variety of new applications are therefore brought to reality: fleets of automatic shuttles for people or goods, automatic cleaning of complex buildings, smart surveillance of critical sites, mobility help for aged and disabled people...

Whereas the service robot marketplace is just spreading its wings, it already accounts for 42% of the total robotic marketplace (540M€ versus 733M€ for production robots). One of the bottlenecks still preventing the high potential market explosion is that service robots require a much higher level of intelligence and personalization than production robots. Today's service robots are only "special machines" usually produced at single or few specimens which can't be industrially deployed.

The robuBOX™ concept provides a definite answer to this issue and opens the industrial era of service robotics.

« We have actually been developing the robuBOX™ concept since the very beginning of the company in 1985 » says Vincent Dupourqué, Executive President of ROBOSOFT." This modular concept has been initiated in the research laboratory of INRIA because we were convinced that the service robotics future lied in the software. It took several years to bring this concept to an industrial reality! What brought us to this stage are both the performance and the maturity of today's technologies, associated to the skills and the experience we have developed with over 400 robots designed and released to date".

"We are convinced that the service robotics marketplace offers incredible growth opportunities. And we have been seduced by the technological concept of the robuBOX™



which gives the company a decisive competitive advantage to conquer the market” adds Thierry Letailleur, President of ACE MANAGEMENT.

In 2006, ROBOSOFT will introduce three ranges of new robots embedding the robuBOX™: RobuCAB™, an automatic cab shuttle for transporting people, robuLAB™ for the interior transport of goods and containers, and robuROC™ for outside security missions. In 2007, the robuBOX™ will be made available to industrial manufacturers, allowing them to design machines and vehicles becoming autonomous robots. For example, industrial scrubbing machines will become totally automatic. In the city centres, individual automatic shuttle will easily and quickly carry people. In the future, the wheel chair for handicapped people will help them to eat, to drink, to shower, to work and to entertain. We can now imagine thousands of useful solutions for the Man.

About ROBOSOFT

ROBOSOFT is one of the worldwide leaders of service robotic solutions. Thanks to its high level skills in all scientific and technical fields, ROBOSOFT develops and supplies since 1985 advanced mobile robotic solutions for Transport, Cleanliness, Security, Health and Research applications.

ROBOSOFT clients are operators of large buildings and sites open to the public (hospitals, airports, museums, shopping centres, 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

About ACE Management

ACE Management advises and manages several investment funds specialized in financing high-tech companies (informatics, micro-electronics): Advance Capital Europe, UFF Innovation 3, 123 Multinova, Aerofund and Sécurité Financière de Brienne.

ACE Management invests in innovating companies, particularly in spin-off companies having a strong growth potential. It is based on a first class industrial partner's network having strong technological competence. More on www.acemanagement.fr

Contacts

Robosoft

Vincent Dupourqué
Executive President
Technopole d'Izarbel,
F-64210 Bidart
Tel : +33 (0) 5 59 41 53 60

E-mail : vincent.dupourque@robosoft.fr

ACE Management

Xavier Kato
Investment Manager
48 rue de Lisbonne
75008 Paris
Tel : +33 (0)1 58 56 25 67

E-mail : xk@acemanagement.fr