



ROBOSOFT announces Support for Microsoft® Robotics Studio

ROBOSOFT has chosen Microsoft Robotics Studio for its entire range of robots and for its robuBOX® advanced robotics controller software

Bidart, France — December 12th, 2006 — Today, ROBOSOFT announced support for Microsoft® Robotics Studio, a new Windows-based environment for academic, hobbyist and commercial developers to easily create robotic applications for a wide variety of computing platforms. ROBOSOFT is among the first featured third-parties to now support the deployment of Microsoft® Robotics Studio, by supplying (i) a first range of professional service robots and hardware platforms embedding Microsoft® Robotics Studio, (ii) an off-the-shelf, advanced robotics controller software (robuBOX®) built with Microsoft® Robotics Studio to rapidly design powerful mobile robots, and (iii) free tutorials for modelling and simulating existing robots.

“As soon as we evaluated Microsoft® Robotics Studio, we decided to immediately use it for all our robotic software developments”, says Vincent Dupourqué, CEO of ROBOSOFT. *“Microsoft® Robotics Studio, with its advanced simulation tools, and its capability to deploy distributed applications allows our engineers and customers to develop reliable applications much faster than ever.”*

“We have been nicely surprised by the quick results obtained by ROBOSOFT in such a short time,” says Tandy Trower, general manager of the Microsoft® Robotics Group at Microsoft® Corp. *“This demonstrates how flexible Microsoft® Robotics Studio is and what a seasoned robotic company such as ROBOSOFT can do with it. In particular, we expect both Microsoft® Robotics Studio and ROBOSOFT’s robuBOX® to rapidly become a must-have for robotics engineers to seamlessly build powerful robotic solutions in various industrial and domestic applications.”*



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First, ROBOSOFT already provides a set of robots fully powered by Microsoft® Robotics Studio, ready to use as platforms for various powerful robotics applications. Available to date are:

- The robuLAB80, an indoor robotic platform, for research applications, automatic transportation of small objects (hospitals, warehouses...), surveillance or entertainment;
- The robuROC4 and 6, two outdoor robotic platforms dedicated to various military and civil security applications;
- The robuARM, a 6 degrees-of-freedom manipulator, designed to operate on mobile platforms.

Second, ROBOSOFT provides the robuBOX®, a generic and advanced robotics controller software, developed with Microsoft® Robotics Studio and implementing high-level mobile robotic functions like path generation and following, obstacle avoidance, localization... It aims at quickly robotizing any type of mobile platforms and vehicles. The robuBOX® provides integrators and manufacturers with an off-the-shelf set of software modules to quickly build standalone or fleets of service robots, such as AGV (Automatic Guided Vehicles), scrubbing machines, golf cars, and so on.

Third, ROBOSOFT provides a set of tutorials for Microsoft® Robotics Studio showing how to build models of real robots for simulations.

For more information on ROBOSOFT support for Microsoft® Robotics Studio, see www.robosoft.com

About Microsoft® Robotics Studio

The Microsoft® Robotics Studio environment is an end-to-end, scalable and extensible robotics development platform that supports a wide variety of hardware. The development environment supports a wide range of programming languages, and includes a new visual programming language, which enables non-programmers to create and debug robotics programs very easily. Microsoft® Robotics Studio includes a powerful physics-based simulation environment that lets developers simulate robotics applications in realistic 3D physics-based virtual environments. The lightweight services-oriented runtime supports the execution of concurrent and distributed robotic applications.

For more Information on Microsoft® Robotics Studio, see <http://www.microsoft.com/robotics>



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About ROBOSOFT

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 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 <http://www.robosoft.com>

About Microsoft®:

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 <http://www.microsoft.com>

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