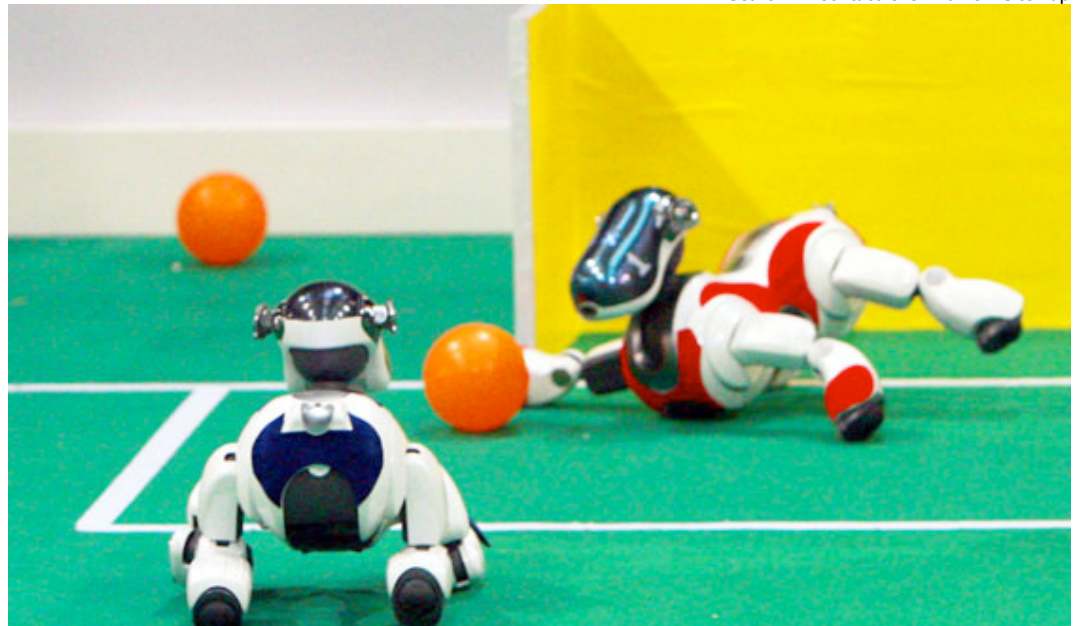




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**German team wins robotics World Championship event**

July 24, 2008

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**A German team has won the RoboCup 2008 - the World Championships for robots playing football – held in Suzhou, China. In the finals, the team of students and faculty from the Technical University (TU), Darmstadt, the Humboldt University, Berlin and the University of Bremen beat the team from the Australian University of Technology, Sydney by 5-0.**

The RoboCup 2008 was held at the Suzhou Expo Centre, in Suzhou, China from 14th - 20th July 2008. It is the world's most renowned competition for research robotics. More than 440 teams from 35 countries competed in this year's International competitions and conferences. Teams compete in various divisions based on size and type of robot: four-legged, wheeled and humanoid.

The German teams succeeded in the humanoid league's teen-sized category and Standard-platform four-legged league. The TU Darmstadt has won the title in the four-legged robot category for the third time after 2004 and 2005.

In the four-legged league two teams of four Sony Aibo robots compete against each other on a four by six meter field. The 20-centimeter robots act completely autonomously, making decisions by processing images from a CCD camera in their head. Algorithms for vision, behaviour control and locomotion running on an onboard processor are developed for the competition.

In the final game of the 3 vs. 3 soccer tournament, NimbRo from Bonn and Freiburg met Team Osaka for the fourth time in a row. Both teams had improved their systems significantly since they last met.

The RoboCup was first held in 1997 as an international joint project to promote artificial intelligence and robotics research. The competition provides a standard problem where a wide range of technologies can be integrated and examined. In order for a team of fully autonomous robots to actually perform a game of football, various technologies must be incorporated, including design principles of autonomous agents, multi-agent collaboration, strategy acquisition, real-time reasoning, robotics, and sensor-fusion.

This international competition also aims to develop a team of autonomous humanoid robot soccer players by 2050 that will be able to defeat the World Cup champions.

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