



News from the Land of Ideas



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Germany Wins Robocup Football World Cup

A feat that eluded the country two summers ago has now been accomplished: Germany have emerged as the new world football champion in the Robocup World Cup!
At the twelfth Robocup World Cup in Suzhou, China, the team of players sent by the Darmstadt University of Technology, Humboldt University Berlin and the University of Bremen prevailed in the Four-Legged League, asserting a clear 5:0 victory in the finale against the Wright Eagle Unleashed team from China and Australia. Teams from Germany did well in other disciplines of robotic football as well: the NimbRo, a team set up by the Universities of Bonn and Freiburg, won the Small Humanoid League cup, prevailing against TeamOsaka from Japan with 7:6 in the final match.

In addition to the popular football tournaments in various leagues, the World Cup also involves competition between service and rescue robots. The contests are hosted by the international RoboCup Federation, a syndicate of around 150 universities, businesses and research centres. The organisation's aim is to advance the development of robotics and artificial intelligence. The scientists' vision is that by 2050, autonomous humanoid robots will be able to win against the reigning flesh-and-blood

Picture: © Darmstadt Dribbling Dackels

world champions.

As early as 2006, the 'Germany - Land of Ideas' initiative had pronounced Humboldt University's kicking robots a 'Landmark', paying tribute to the Berlin researchers' commitment to smart solutions in robotics. Now the next challenge is to join their colleagues from Darmstadt and Bremen in defending their title at the next Robocup World Cup, to be held in Graz, Austria in 2009.

Related links:

Robocup 2008 in Suzhou <http://www.robocup-cn.org/>

Robocup 2009 in Graz <http://www.robocup2009.org/>

German National Robocup Committee <http://www.robocup.de/>

Darmstadt Dribbling Dackels: <http://www.robocup.informatik.tu-darmstadt.de/>

Darmstadt Dribbling Dackels at the SoccerEX 2007: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Fx6PoCQXow>

Aibo Team Humboldt www.aiboteamhumboldt.com

NimbRo Learning Humanoid Robots <http://www.nimbros.net/index.html>