

KOKORO NEWS

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Dinosaur jungles appeared in the middle of a big city in midsummer!



Stylish dinosaur show windows

Mitsukoshi department store (in Tokyo)

Dense jungles were placed in show windows, where dinosaurs began to move! We displayed movable dinosaur robots in four show windows of Mitsukoshi department store facing the main street as advance publicity for "Freshly dug dinosaur exhibition" held that summer. The dinosaur robots strongly enhanced their presence roaring under the sunlight of midsummer.

Their roaring voice was able to be heard even on the sidewalk outside. Many people walking on the street stopped to watch the dinosaurs though under the scorching sun.

Moreover, giant Tarbosaurus appeared in the center hall on the first floor in August. Customers including families and ladies were surprised to unexpectedly see the dinosaur in such a place. The center hall was crowded with a lot of people every day. A special area for taking commemorative photographs was also a great success.



Website of Mitsukoshi department store (in Japanese only)
<http://www.mitsukoshi.co.jp/>

New Exhibition

Overwhelming giant body! Delicate expressive power! Action stage performed by a giant robot

Dinosaur is the main character of a live attraction show "T-REXA AND ME"!
It is in perfect harmony with an actor.

DINOPOLIS (Teruel, Spain)

"DINOPOLIS" is a new-type complex amusement facility opened in Teruel, which is located near Valencia. A long-awaited dinosaur facility finally came into existence in Spain where dinosaurs are very popular as many dinosaur footprint fossils have been found there. The top favorite in this facility is "T-REXA AND ME", a live attraction show performed on the grand stage in which T-rex named Teresa plays a role as the main character.

A dinosaur scholar (actor) tries to steal an egg from the nest of T-rex, when the mother dinosaur appears and... The giant animatronic T-rex is in perfect harmony with the actor on the stage, which makes the show intense and vigorous! It has demonstrated animatronics can be a good partner of an actor on a live performance stage.

This project is a joint project among Kokoro, the Natural History Museum London (<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/>) and General de Producciones y Diseno, S.A. (GPD) (http://www.gpdsa.es/index_i.html), planning design company in Spain. It will be packaged and sold to the world in future.



Extravaganza made by beautiful women and a dinosaur! Pachinko and Pachisuro Industry Fair 2002 / Kyoraku Booth

The show stage to promote "Jurassic Park", a new Pachinko machine model of KYORAKU SANGYO CO., LTD, stood out from other exhibits at the site of "Pachinko and Pachisuro Industry Fair 2002" which was filled with excitement.

A giant animatronic Tarbosaurus appeared with a roar from a cloud of smoke.

It played a major role at the fair showing its talent as an entertainer, getting into the rhythm of music together with dancers around it.

It was able to update a dinosaur's past image as just a horrible being. We're sure that visitors enjoyed the show stage which embodied "amusing, easy and exciting entertainment". Another dinosaur Tyrannosaurus also played an important role as a moving eye-catcher illuminated by red light overhead. It also contributed to attendance.



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Website of KYORAKU SANGYO CO., LTD (in Japanese only)
<http://www.kyoraku.co.jp/>

Legendary sea creatures were re-created dynamically. Lao Hu Tan Pole Aquarium (Dalian, China)

"Lao Hu Tan Pole Aquarium" is a new type aquarium which shows severe environment of the polar region using experiential exhibition techniques. The two animatronics, showing "a fight between a sperm whale and a giant squid", are dynamically displayed in a corner where visitors can simulate the adventure in the untraversed polar region and deep sea.

Though the scene is familiar on encyclopedias, no formal record exists about it. So it can be said that the animatronics have re-created "a shadowy famous scene". The height of the animatronics is 7m. The fight between two largest sea creatures tells a threat of deep sea.



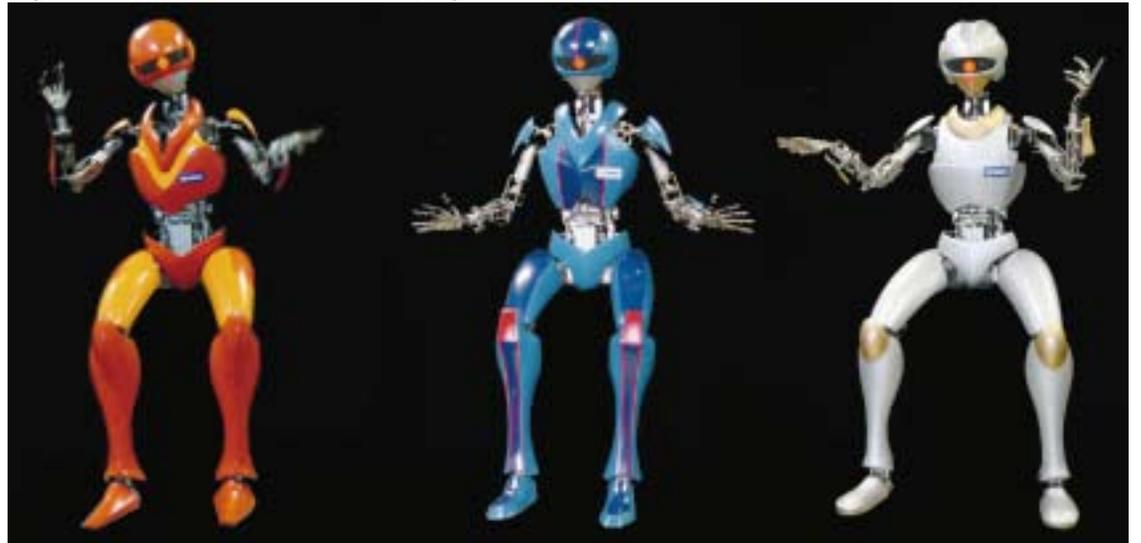
You can choose your favorite external appearance! Simple and convenient semi-custom robot. General-purpose type narration robot "S-doll"

Kokoro's long seller item "S-doll" is playing a major role in various fields as a user-friendly rental robot. Customers can choose its narration and costume freely according to their needs. The standard S-doll has all basic mechanisms required for a narration robot but now we can also rent it as a semi-custom robot at a reasonable price providing originally-designed external parts for it.



First floor of "Broadband Digital House", DEODEO Main Store

3 types of appearance for the S-doll displayed in DEODEO



Spring & Autumn version



Summer version



Winter version

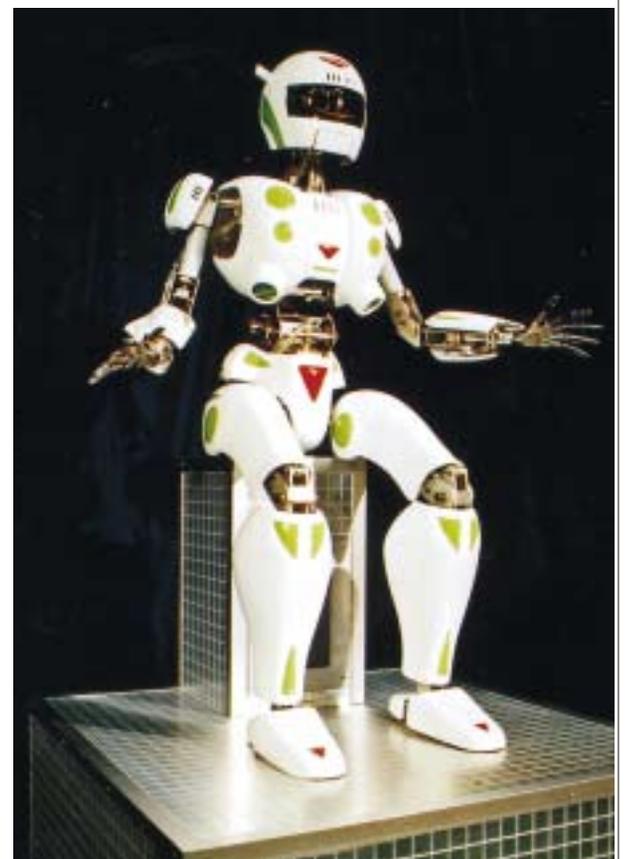
The S-doll used in the main store of DEODEO (see the pictures above) can be quickly changed into a robot with a different image by changing its clothes depending on the season.

Website of DEODEO Corporation (in Japanese only)
<http://www.deodeo.co.jp>

We provided technical cooperation in the realization of an educational robot "KARFE" (see the picture on the right) developed by Nippon Engineering College of Hachioji.



Website of Nippon Engineering College
<http://www.neec.ac.jp/cie/us/index.html>



"KARFE" developed by Nippon Engineering College of Hachioji



Robot sushi chef serving customers by voice recognition
Simulation of a future life where robots live with human beings
Special exhibition "Robot World"
held at the Nagoya City Science Museum (in Aichi Prefecture)



Kokoro has been engaged in development of interactive robots as next-generation amusement robots. Robots' progress and their future prospects were introduced using concrete simulated settings in a special exhibition "Robot World" held in Aichi Prefecture. In the exhibition, Kokoro's "S-doll" was used as a future robot sushi chef at a sushi-go-round restaurant setting. Equipped with new functions, it was able to have a conversation with customers and make various movements responding to external voice input.

It's a unique robot which sprinkles its talk with jokes when it answers a customer who orders sushi. Aiming for a real-time interaction robot which can realize a sense of unity with users, we developed the robot under technical collaboration with InterRobot Inc., developer of "iRT" (InterRobot technology) which can control the movement responding to external voice input.

Website of Nagoya City Science Museum
<http://www.ncsm.city.nagoya.jp/english/>

Website of InterRobot Inc.
<http://en.i-robot.co.jp/>



Leading us into a colorful game themed on light
Laser shooting guided by "Prism Robot"
Takasaki Youth Science Center (in Gunma Prefecture)

Let's start a game as invited by a robot which is standing on the other side of the game board. You can spontaneously gain necessary knowledge about light and prisms and learn about their properties through the game.

"Laser shooting guided by Prism Robot" is a science exhibit to explain properties of light including the way it goes and its reflection and refraction.

Visitors manipulate each prism by a lever and enjoy the game in which they can change a direction of a laser and try to hit it at the target. Prism Robot invites the visitors to this game and gives commentary about light.



Website of Takasaki Youth Science Center (in Japanese only)
<http://www.t-kagakukan.or.jp/>