Press Release

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For General Release

Information Services International-Dentsu, Ltd.

ISID and Tokyo University's Rekimoto Lab Jointly Develop IoA Device TiCA Aimed at a Society Where Humans and Robots Coexist and Launch Experiment at Shinagawa Konan

ISID's Open Innovation Lab (INNOLAB) and the University of Tokyo's Rekimoto Lab have jointly developed a prototype of TiCA, a remote communication device embodying the Internet of Abilities (IoA) aimed at a society where humans and robots coexist. This device, paired with the CarriRo Delivery home delivery robot developed by ZMP, will be used for an autonomous driving experiment in an office district for three days (March 20–23) in the Shinagawa Konan area.

In recent years, the development of robot technologies has been advancing rapidly, and in the near future, we anticipate a society where robots support human activities in a variety of places. Many robots are developed to have functions specialized for various purposes, but in the future, it is assumed that it will be necessary to equip them with the ability to handle unexpected events that might arise when interacting with humans. For example, in the case of home delivery robots used in urban areas, it is assumed that there will be numerous instances where the robot's functions will be hampered when faced with an inability to maneuver on streets crowded with people or use elevators and push buttons.

Believing that human beings and robots can complement each other's capabilities through a network and that these problems can be solved, INNOLAB and Rekimoto Lab have jointly promoted technical research and social implementation of robots. The jointly developed TiCA is a spherical remote communication device with LED's covering the entire surface. A patent-pending technology by which the lighting position and type changes according to the viewpoint of a remote operator enables natural communication as if the remote operator were right there making eye contact. In this experiment, we will test the robot's efficacy and collect data related to the reactions and behaviors of surrounding people by pairing with the delivery robot operating autonomously in an office district.

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