



# COGNIRON News

Echos from the **COGNIRON** Project  
*The Cognitive Robot Companion* (FP6 Contract ref. IST-002020)

## The Danish Council of Ethics visits COGNIRON



Two representatives from the Danish Council of Ethics spent a day at LAAS on April 21, and were shown the COGNIRON platforms Rackham and Jido. Raja Chatila gave an interview presenting the project and wider ethics-related issues in robotics. This visit followed exchanges with two other Beyond Robotics Projects (I-SWARM and NEUROBOTICS). A website presenting the outcomes of the discussions with the 3 projects will be open by the Danish Council of Ethics in the fall of 2006.

## COGNIRON on Discovery Channel



COGNIRON was contacted in February by journalists from Discovery Channel. The Canada television channel has now released a video, featuring the University of Hertfordshire team and the robots used in the projet.

See <http://www.exn.ca/dailyplanet/view.asp?date=4/11/2006> (under "Robots, if you please")

## CNN meets COGNIRON robots at LAAS !



A CNN journalist came to LAAS on April 3 to interview Prof Ron Arkin (Professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, on sabbatical in Toulouse for a year) for the preparation of "Future Summit", a new TV-show on the future of science and technology (see: <http://edition.cnn.com/CNNI/Programs/futuresummit/>). During the interview Ron Arkin presented COGNIRON, and LAAS platforms used on the project were also put on tape.

## Demonstrations at CeBit by the FhG-IPA team



During CeBIT 2006, world's largest ICT Congress, which took place in Hannover in March, the Fraunhofer IPA team presented a mirror robot that copies human motion. The robot was controlled using a detection algorithm developed within the project Research Activities.

## COGNIRON Workshop at ICRA2006



Like the two previous years, COGNIRON will be present at ICRA2006 in Orlando in May, via a workshop on *Cognitive Robots and Systems*, organised by LAAS, the University of Amsterdam, KTH and EPFL. For more information see: <http://www2.laas.fr/ICRA2006-Cognition/>

## Next General Assembly to take place in Hatfield, UK: June 26-27, 2006



The next COGNIRON plenary meeting will be hosted by the University of Hertfordshire (UH), in Hatfield, England. The UH team will organise a project lab tour, to show the on-going work.



**COGNIRON** Project, LAAS-CNRS, 7, Avenue du Colonel Roche, 31 077 Toulouse Cedex 4, France  
[www.cogniron.org](http://www.cogniron.org) - [info@cogniron.org](mailto:info@cogniron.org)